



**PALESTINE POLICE
OLD COMRADES'
ASSOCIATION**

EDITOR

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NEWS LETTER

Printed by



The Old Man of the Hillary Press Ltd., Donor Member 135
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and apologises for the occasional "Hiccup"
during the past year.

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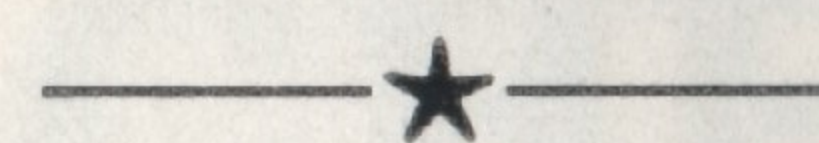
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19 The Crest, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ
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SPECIAL NOTE

To all Branch Secretaries and other contributors:
Material for the March 1985 issue of the News Letter should
be in the hands of the Editor by 5th January, 1985.

WHY NOT ADVERTISE?



Members of the Association in business, commerce, transport, hotel-trade, etc., etc. Why not advertise in this News Letter? Details can be obtained by writing to the Editor. The rates are:

Full Page	£20 per issue
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NOTICE

W. H. (Bill) Stevens of 20 St. Nicholas Drive, Feltwell, Thetford, Norfolk IP26 4DW is keen to purchase a P.P. cap badge. This item should have been inserted some time ago. Any reader who can oblige, please contact Bill Stevens direct. (Our request to make this insertion is actually dated 1983).

NOTICE

If any reader has a copy of Newsletter No. 59 (March 1965) to spare, then Bill Anderson, 19 Priestly Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LL (telephone 01-648 8324) is anxious to procure it. Please make direct contact and oblige.

NOTICE

Sometimes things get very hectic in the newsletter department and one of the chores that affects the editor is the invoicing to those who have been kind enough to support the journal by placing advertisements in each issue. Ideally, this should be done following each issue, but even after the newsletter has gone to press the work load is enormous and is sometimes a bit too much and this year the actual invoicing was not attempted until 14th August, which is not really good enough for the customers. Thus by an agreement with Central Council, our Association Treasurer has agreed to take over the task which will have the added advantage of centralising all the systems of account. It is hoped that this measure will prove more efficient for all concerned, an aim we all reach for but sometimes fail to achieve.

Anyone wishing to place advertisements in the newsletter, particular branch secretaries with important notices of forthcoming attractions, should still deal directly with the editor. The main difference is that those who expect to receive a bill will get it from the treasurer to whom cash should be sent.

WISDOM FROM THE TREASURER

Another year is about to start and another nag from me is due. It is directed at all those nice, pleasant, amiable and ageing old comrades who do not happen to pay their subscriptions and/or newsletter levy by bankers order or advanced donations but on a strict annual basis whereby if they are not 'reminded'

something slips and payment does not actually arrive. Then the newsletter gets stopped. Then there is a panic to renew. Please see to it now. Within a day of actually reading this notice and oblige. Remember the immortal words

**"DO NOT STRAY AWAY
FROM THE O.C.A."**

Alec Mackenzie (deceased)

I could not put it better myself.

SIDNEY JOHNSON

ADVERTISEMENT

Just inside the first few pages of this issue is an advertisement inserted on behalf of The Regency Press to help launch a book written by former Palestine Policeman, Gerald Murphy. It is called Copper Mandarin and retails at £7.50 hardback edition (post free). We have not yet had the opportunity of reading our own copy, but feel sure we are doing all former members of the force a special favour by bringing this publication to notice. We hope it will prove a great success and may be able to mention it again in a future issue.

EDITOR

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Another year has passed and in spite of some grievous deaths in 1984 the association continues to thrive and presses closer to the 40th year following the Stand which will be 1988. Christmas is a good time to look in upon ourselves as well as to look back upon our service in Palestine. To appreciate other old comrades as part of our great family and to remember those who are not well and even to think of those who were killed or died for some other reason while in The Holy Land. Indeed some old comrades still suffer from wounds and injuries received in the course of their duties so many years ago.

In short it is a good time for me to take a golden opportunity to wish all old comrades and their families all best wishes. A Happy Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year to you all.

T. J. (Terry) SHAND
Chairman

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1984

THE CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS (Condensed)

In opening the meeting I would like to dwell for a few moments on the events of the 36th year of this wonderful association of ours and especially call to mind the gaps in our ranks that have appeared since we last met and that is why I ask you to stand and remember them several of whom were in this room last year.

The assembly then stood for about half a minute.

In many ways this is "Thank you time" for without the people I am about to thank on your behalf there would be no association. First the secretaries of the branch committees, at home and abroad, who keep things spinning and by so doing they also create a social whirl which brings together whole families and friends. Then there are members of Central Council whose members bring wise counsel which in turn keeps us all on even keel and I would like to pay special tribute to Les Seaton and Peter Hornby who journey three hundred miles to and from London to join us at each Council meeting. I would like to thank Tom Walker who as a former Chairman (one year), Vice Chairman (13 years) and Association Treasurer (also 13 years) is now retiring from Central Council to live in Dorset. He was relentless in performing his part to see our funds and activities were properly looked after. I commend him to Southern & Western Counties Branch as someone with a 'lot of mileage'. Of Sidney Johnson, almost everything has been said. Efficient, diligent and capable. He not only keeps our purse strings now but the responsibility falls lightly upon his shoulders.

Of Micky Hills whose knock upon a door and entrance to a hospital ward has so often raised the morale of the recipient of his call. He is Chairman of the Benevolent Association Trustees and there is no more worthy person for this post and we all owe him a tremendous debt. Accolades, if that is the right word, have poured on Ted Horne and long may this be so. He has sage like qualities that help us no end and his special responsibility these days is the newsletter. Finally John Foster your General Secretary who has held that office since 1973. Nearly twelve years is a long time and in that time the association has achieved a great deal. There has been some first class administrative staff work with much to show for it. His secretary Mrs. Pauline Shaw must not be forgotten and her efforts are appreciated by us all.

As for the present. The association stands 'Tall', our membership remains high with about 70 new and rejoining members coming in this year. There are 62 at this meeting and tonight something like 162 will sit down to the dinner. Tomorrow we

honour our dead at the cenotaph, those who joined but did not come home from the finest Police Force ever raised abroad. Long may it be so.

TERRY SHAND

MINUTES

OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Saturday, 1st October 1983, were circulated in newsletter 133 (December 1983): It was proposed by G. Stewart and seconded by W. Anderson that they be taken as read. The proposition was approved and they were then signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT (Slightly condensed)

The association is still managing to remain an active and thriving body notwithstanding some 76 reports of deaths of former Palestine Policemen over the past 12 months; but we have had the addition to our mailing list for the newsletter of some 50 new and rejoining members, whilst on the associate and donor side there has been an increase of 31. Not that such a statistic should be looked upon as encouragement but it does perhaps give some indication of the affection that many still hold for the old force even after some 36 years. While this theoretically shows a slight increase in numbers it does not tell the whole story because unfortunately we do have a further 'drop out' of members due to those who, for one reason or another, lapse their membership and these amount to well over a hundred in the last few years.

Dare we look ahead to 40 years on from the Stand Down. I would think so. At least so far as the continuity of the present Annual Reunion Weekend is concerned. In this connection gentlemen, I suggest collectively we try to encourage ALL members to make October 1988 a 'real' reunion. It is essential we look that far ahead because many of us make plans well in advance and it will give a target for those overseas if they are thinking of making a U.K. visit in the foreseeable future. Therefore I hope that the assembled company will give an indication of its approval to such an idea so that your Central Council has a positive objective which can be reiterated in future newsletters.

I do not have a great deal to report concerning the past year except to say that Central Council has had its usual quota of meetings which have been very well attended by those elected by you and their deliberations have been, I hope, faithfully minuted and circulated to branch secretaries in the United Kingdom and I sincerely hope that they have passed matters of interest on to their membership at various branch meetings. While not wishing to steel any of the Treasurer's thunder on the financial position of the association, I do feel that attention must be drawn to the financial knife edge upon which we continue to exist. The cost of producing and distributing the quarterly newsletter is without a doubt the major charge that has to be met at the same time the vital life-blood of the association. As you will be aware, the current subscription is £3.50 (Life Members £2 which is the newsletter levy only), and yet it costs over £4 per newsletter per annum, while in addition other current expenses equate to something like £1.50 per annum per newsletter. That is to say a donation of approximately £6 per annum would just about break even, so were it not for those members who donate generously and well in excess of the minimum, we would be in very deep water. I am sure I do not need to labour this point and no doubt the treasurer will be producing further facts and figures which will enlarge upon this matter.

Using this report and its subsequent publication in the newsletter as a vehicle of general information, may I please remind you all that it is vital that you advise me of any change of address you may become aware of because we seem to have a number of members who imagine that we are clairvoyants.

I usually make a point of saying thank you to the other executive officers, branch secretaries and anyone who in any way helps the association to continue to flourish and this is not a form of words but is genuinely meant because without this help and assistance our future would be endangered. We can always do with more people coming forward and being prepared to give a little time and effort to assist and it is extremely disheartening to know the difficulties which have been experienced in the Hertfordshire area due to lack of support and volunteers to sustain the continuation of that branch after such a promising start a few years ago. Similarly I understand the Southern and Western Counties are faced with the problem of finding volunteers to fill those regrettable vacancies that have occurred in their executive. Thanks are due to Jim Bamford the branch chairman who has bridged the gap for the time being. Finally Mrs. Pauline Shaw has, as ever, been working very hard in the background and dealing with endless enquiries and keeping records up-to-date. I am sure the association would wish her to be formally thanked for such sterling efforts.

JOHN FOSTER

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION (In full)

This is the fourth annual report of the Benevolent Association and once again it gives me great pleasure to announce continued progress. During the year, 26 members/widows/dependants received grants from the association ranging from £5 to £400. New cases are coming to notice all the time and local members are now more involved with the dealings of those cases. This is a great help to the committee. It is a lot easier to discuss a first hand report than to reply on an incomplete picture from a petitioner, as in most cases, and who may well be in a distressed state. It also ensures that the correct advice is given on any benefit that may be forthcoming from the D.H.S.S. and other sources.

We have developed an emergency system whereby the information of a case is given to one of the trustees — Messrs. S. W. Hills, T. J. Shand and S. P. Johnson — who then decide collectively on the action to be taken. That decision is later communicated to the other members of the committee — Messrs. L. Seaton, L. Sexton and W. Anderson — and discussed. A follow up report, including that from the local member — visiting member or branch secretary etc. — and is then submitted at the next meeting of the Central Council and covering authority to make the grant is sought.

To the members of the Benevolent Association committee and all local members who assist, I give my thanks but I would like to give a special 'thank you' to our Benevolent Association Chairman, S. W. (Mickey) Hills for his fine efforts with the Derby Sweepstake Draw this year, when he personally sold £566.00 worth of tickets.

SIDNEY P. JOHNSON

TREASURER'S REPORT (In full)

I now present the audited accounts of the General and Benevolent Association as separately published in the September newsletter No. 136. The General Account continues to give cause for concern. This year the deficit is £2,685 and with last year the sum is £4,044. All round increased costs are to blame with the newsletter production and postage costs taking the lead. The annual Reunion Dinner had its first loss for many years, which has resulted in an increase in the price of the ticket this year.

The Central Council has agreed to the Derby Draw allocation going to the General Fund and some of the book sales are now going towards the newsletter production costs in an effort to reduce the deficit. The Benevolent Association is in a healthy state with another surplus of £3,201. I have looked at ways of the Benevolent Association assisting the General Fund, as was the case in reverse only a few years ago, and made adjustments on expenses which are not in conflict with the Charity Commissioners. However these economies are not enough to erode the loss of the past two years. The General Secretary has mentioned in his report, a minimum subscription of £6.00. I fully commend this suggestion to all members — regardless of status — Life — Annual — Associate or Donor — and ask them to give it their full support.

We are approaching the 40th anniversary of the Stand Down. Let us go into that glorious year, paying our way and with reserves intact. The Central Council has discussed an increase in the subscriptions/levy and agreed to leave it to those members to make their own voluntary donations. Those who already pay by bankers order are asked to instruct their bank direct on an increase. Members who do not pay by bankers order and would like to do so, should send a completed form to the General Secretary. On this subject it is noted that some members are paying their subscriptions by two orders from the same bank. This causes extra work by the bank which means that the association has to pay extra bank charges. Only the member concerned can put this right.

The Derby Sweepstake Draw tickets will be in the hands of branch secretaries at the end of this weekend. The support of all members in selling these tickets is again sought. In conclusion I again thank you all for your continued support to both our funds. When the association was first formed, we were given a life of 20 years. We have almost completed our second 20 and there is no reason why we should not go on for a third tour.

SIDNEY P. JOHNSON

It was proposed by T. R. Walker and seconded by J. L. Niven that the Treasurer's Report and the accounts (as published in the last issue of the newsletter) be received and approved and this was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The gavel was handed to the Vice-Chairman, L. T. Seaton Esq, while the business of appointing a chairman for the year 1984/85 was proceeded with.

CHAIRMAN — It was proposed by W. Anderson and seconded by G. Stewart that T. J. Shand Esq. be re-elected chairman for the forthcoming year. Carried.

The gavel was then handed back to the Chairman and the meeting continued.

VICE-CHAIRMAN — It was proposed by V. B. Stockwell and seconded by J. Sempill that L. T. Seaton Esq. be re-elected vice-chairman for the forthcoming year. Carried.

COUNCILLORS — Eight councillors agreed to stand again for re-election, namely Messrs: A. Anderson, G. Andrews, D. Cartwright, M.B.E., C.P.M., T. Freeburn, S. W. Hills, K.P.M., B.E.M., P. E. Hornby, L. Sexton and G. Stewart. It was proposed by J. Bamford and seconded by J. Jensen that these eight members of Central Council be elected en bloc. This proposal was put to the meeting and carried.

The General Secretary then reported that T. R. Walker felt unable to continue on the council and had asked for his name to be withdrawn from possible re-selection. This left a vacancy. G. Stewart then proposed that J. L. Niven Esq. be elected and this was seconded by B. Henwood. There being no other nominations and J. L. Niven agreeing to accept office if elected, his name was put forward to the meeting and carried. There was then a statement from the chair thanking T. R. Walker for his previous service to the association as a councillor and as a senior executive officer and this was applauded.

AUDITOR — It was proposed by J. H. Foster that Mr. G. H. Byfield be re-elected as auditor and this was seconded by E. P. Horne and when put to the meeting was carried.

NOTE — By virtue of previous service, Messrs E. P. Horne, B.E.M. and S. P. Johnson are ex-officio members of Central Council. Rule 7.2. The post of General Secretary is a Central Council appointment and takes effect from the October meeting of Central Council following the Annual General Meeting.

At this stage the chairman invited the newsletter editor, E. P. Horne, B.E.M. to comment on the newsletter in general and some of the problems of production. He took the opportunity to apologise for some of the errors that crept in but even the National Press was observed to have such lapses. The quantity of correspondence was still considerable and needed attention and sifting but please keep it coming.

John Sempill suggested it would undoubtedly help if a stamped and addressed envelope was enclosed when an answer was required.

REPORTS FROM DELEGATES AND BRANCHES

Branch	Report received from
London	W. Anderson (Secretary)
Midlands	A. Burton (Treasurer)
Merseyside and District	P. E. Hornby (Vice-Chairman)
Scottish	J. Lindsay (Secretary)
Yorkshire	'G.S.' on behalf of R. Saxen
South East Counties	C. Walter (Secretary)
Southern and Western Counties	J. Bamford (Chairman/Acting Secretary)
East Midlands	G. Coaten (Secretary)
South Midlands	J. H. Foster (Chairman)
South Wales	D. Howell (Secretary)

The following members were present at the meeting and gave a short report on local conditions. F. Farmer (Bermuda), J. Cresswell (Canada) and A. Leadbetter (New South Wales — Australia).

The meeting which had opened at 3.15 p.m. with 62 in attendance closed at 4.30 p.m.

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER — LONDON 1984

The Thirty-Ninth annual reunion dinner took place at The Conference Centre, Westminster Cathedral, London, S.W.1., on Saturday, 6th October, 1984. The number who attended was 162, which was twenty up on last year. The Toast to Absent Friends was given by J. Chettle, Esq. (East Midlands Branch) and the important Toast to the Association was given by the Association Vice-Chairman, L. Seaton, Esq. As has been the custom in recent years whenever the Association President has been present, Brigadier J. M. Rymer-Jones, C.B.E., M.C., C.St.J., Q.P.M., had something to say about his time in Palestine, not just as our former Inspector General but with Middle East service that goes back as far as 1920 in the army. On the top table this year were the following association officers and guests: Association Chairman, T. J. Shand, Esq., who presided. The Lord Caradon, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., O.B.E., who is one of our Patrons. Brigadier J. M. Rymer-Jones, C.B.E., M.C., C.St.J., Q.P.M., Association President. Sir Richard Catling, C.M.G., O.B.E., K.P.M. and Colonel W. N. Gray, C.M.G., D.S.O., K.P.M., both of whom are Vice-Presidents of the Association. E. P. Horne, Esq., B.E.M., Chairman Emeritus. J. H. Foster, Esq., General Secretary. L. Seaton, Esq., Association Vice-Chairman. Rear Admiral J. Cook, Appeals Secretary of the Star and Garter Homes who was our Guest of Honour. S. P. Johnson, Esq., Association Treasurer.

S. W. Hills, Esq., K.M.P., B.E.M., Chairman of Benevolent Association. The Rev. L. Beeby, The Association Chaplain. J. Chettle, Esq. representing East Midlands Branch who are specially honoured this year. R. Stanners, Esq. who served 22 years in Palestine and L. Sexton, Esq. Central Council and Chairman of London Branch.

Some messages were read from the following: Messrs. J. Fforde (former A.I.G. in South Africa); D. Fairfoul (South Africa); N. Carter (Israel); V. Cannings (temporarily in Teneriffe) and G. Maynard (Zimbabwe). Apologies for absence were also read from: Rt. Hon. The Lord Charteris of Amisfield and Sir Thomas Scrivenor both Patrons of the Association. K. Hadingham, R. Rowberry, J. L. Moss, J. Pullman, G. Simpson and J. Hoyle.

The formal part of the evening ended when T. J. Shand, Esq. led us into singing The Holy City and we are grateful to Mrs. Josephine Harvey for the pianoforte accompaniment. There was a raffle in the course of the evening to boost funds which, after expenses, made a profit of £162 (curiously this makes a profit of £1 per head with 162 present). It is worthy of note that the following old comrades attended from overseas: Messrs. R. Brooks (Germany), A. Crombie (U.S.A.), D. Miles (New Zealand), F. Farmer (Bermuda), A. Leadbetter (Australia), J. Cresswell (Canada) and E. Thomas and R. Greenwell (Channel Islands). We are grateful to the Daily Telegraph for the report given under Service Dinners on Monday, 8th October.

ANNUAL CENOTAPH PARADE AND SERVICE

Once more there was a miraculous break in the autumn weather and Sunday, 7th October, 1984 dawned dry and not too cold and by 10.30 a.m. about 185 men assembled at Whitehall Place, London, S.W.1. to honour those of our number who died in Palestine. A further ten or twelve assembled along the north side of the cenotaph as 'invalides, associate or donor members' who were there for the same purpose with two ties spotted in the crowd. So that with all marchers, non marchers and cenotaph functionaries counted together the total figure settled at 202 old comrades present. Itself a remarkable tribute 36 years after the Stand Down in Palestine and of the esteem and high regard that this annual ceremony has among our members.

There were three companies and of these A Company was inspected by Colonel W. N. Gray with Association Chairman T. J. Shand, Esq. in attendance. B. Company was inspected by Sir Richard Catling with Association Chairman Emeritus E. P. Horne, Esq. in attendance and C Company by I. Proud, Esq. with

Company Commander F. Pays in attendance. Once again the Parade commander was E. H. Wells, Esq. and this year the Wreath Bearer party consisted of Messrs. A. Anderson and G. Coaten of East Midlands Branch which was the 'duty' branch for the entire weekend. In due time the column stepped off behind the Metropolitan Police Band to arrive on time at The Cenotaph at 11 o'clock. The wreath was then laid in dignified manner by the Association President, Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones and after a period of silence the Last Post was sounded by two buglers from the band. This is always a moving and poignant moment and the buglers seemed perfect in their solemn task. The service was read by The Reverence Lawrence Beeby, the Association Chaplain and former Palestine Policeman. The column then marched off smartly to be dismissed in King Charles Street and Whitehall was returned to the Londoners once more but now with a fine wreath bearing the P.P. crest at the foot of the Cenotaph. Within the hour a light rain started to fall and it really did not matter.

HOME NOTES

One of the nicest photographs we have received for many months, came in September from H. (Nick) Carter, Flat 3A, Rehov Addirim 3, Neve Sharett, 69184, Israel. He writes "As I am now alone, I have made efforts to find the school for blind children which is so often advertised in the newsletter (See Lovell Society etc. in this issue — Ed.). At last I have succeeded. The school is actually situated in Beit Hanina which is about 9 kilometres from Jerusalem, so that the East Jerusalem location as given in the society's literature and quoted in the newsletter from time to time is a bit misleading. I was made most welcome when I paid a visit. There are about 45 girls in residence, all blind and all very well looked after although they are in need of funds. The name of the principal, who is also blind, is: Miss Helena Shehadeh, Al Shureeq School for Girls, Beit Hanina, P.O.B. 19924, Jerusalem." We are very grateful to Nick Carter for this information and for making contact with the school which is the end product of a charity that many of our members have supported for years. The Lovell Society and the efforts of Eric and Mary Peacock at East Preston, East Sussex (see advertisement elsewhere in this issue) are directed to this school and they send the society's newsletter to us from time to time. But as for the photograph already mentioned. It shall appear in the next issue and as we said earlier a jolly nice one it has turned out to be.

V. S. Clifton (is it Victor?) of 3 Nunn Crescent, Penang, West Malaysia has been in touch with a longish letter, some of

PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

Derby Sweepstakes, 1985

★ **FIRST PRIZE £200.00** ★

2nd Prize £100 3rd Prize £50 4th Prize £25

All runners £10 each Non-runners £5 each Near misses £2 each

Draw will take place on Sunday, 26th May, 1985 at 12 noon
at The Liverpool Crest Hotel.

— **TICKETS TWENTY PENCE EACH** —

Promoter: S. P. Johnson, 19 The Crest, Leigh on Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ.
Reg. under Lotteries & Amusements Act 1976 with Southend Council



We are seeking more buyers — and/or sellers — of tickets for the 1985 Sweepstake which are available from the U.K. Branch Secretaries, profits of which go to the General Benevolent and Branch Funds. Both the prize money and allocation of profit are increased with the rise in sales. Should any member have any difficulty in obtaining tickets, they are available direct from the promoter.

This is an ideal way of supporting your association and at the same time stand a chance of being included among the list of prizewinners.

This invitation to take part is of course extended to our members overseas.

which appears later in this issue. He had an interesting paragraph on medals and appears to be the recipient of no less than four General Service awards. They are: Palestine — Palestine 1945-1948 — Malaya and a medal called the Pingat Khidmat Berbatki which seems to translate as Medal Service Tribute and was awarded in 1963 and is treated locally as a General Service Medal. This of course makes up the four. Many members of the military forces have been on record as acquiring five, six or even seven clasps to a G.S.M. but with Palestine Policemen four is a rare number. He goes on to say that he believes his old friend 'Sambo' Peat to be the only member of the Palestine Police to be awarded two Colonial Police Long Service Medals. The first for 18 years in Palestine and a bar for his continued qualifying service in Malaya for 25 years completed service. As to this we are not sure. John Howard Beard did 28 years service in Palestine and was our longest serving British member of the force and would have been entitled to the clasp. Freddie Partridge and Edward Cosgrove just missed the qualifying service for the clasp. Cecil Pound might be considered with 26 years but most of this was on Frontier Control duties which might not have counted. But there is Eric Denton who got in over 25 years altogether. This is just for Palestine service and does not include those who collected extra time in other territories. So it would be nice to know if Sambo Peat is unique. Come to think of it, it is nice to be simply unique. Meanwhile we thank our last Malaysian representative for his nice letter.

We are used to taking a bit of stick now and again and probably deserve it (sometimes). Such as a silly error made in the last issue when we aimed to assist Aubrey Nye by publishing the address of Peter Jelacsics and then proceeded to insert the wrong address. A. S. (Monty) Banks brought us to task and we still do not know quite what happened. We did telephone Aubrey to try and rectify any damage that might have ensued but for the record can now reveal the real location of Peter Jelacsics as:— 13 Kingsworth Gardens, Folkestone, Kent and not at, repeat not at: Harcourt Road as wrongly inserted. If that aberration was not enough, we now have to admit to a gremlin that is likely to spoil a beautiful friendship with Peter John Platts of 1/485 Marine Parade, Christchurch 7, New Zealand who has had occasion before to point out that he is not the Tiny Platts so often referred to by various old comrades from time to time. After at least two attempts to point this out, we even pencilled against his name and address on the editor's copy of the register of members the words — "Do not confuse with Tiny Platts" yet in the last issue out it all spilled once more. Peter was very nice about it, although his letter seemed a little long suffering as well it might. We hope not to fall into the trap once more, although for the record, people who write to us often get the two Platts confused too. So we are not the only ones. We have even got

Peter's address wrong once or twice so I suppose we do not come out of it very well.

Our photographs continue to stir interest among readers and the one entitled "Whose drinking tea?" on page 31 of the last issue predictably brought letters. As of course it was designed to do. J. Sudlow (former B/Const 1374 — whose first name is regrettably not to hand — Ed.) of 24 Ashfield Avenue, Atherton, Lancashire M29 0HD is pretty sure that the figure on the right of the picture is former A. S. P. Townsend, M.M., C.P.M. whose obituary notice was published in issue No. 135. While Roy (Pasha) Lamond of Beit Tiberia, Knockard Road, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5HJ is also pretty sure that the other figure is that of his fellow Scot, the late Jimmy Hynds whose obituary was published as long ago as issue No. 119. So there we have it and we have to thank two good informants for taking the trouble to let us know who these particular old comrades were. While on the subject of photographs and by way of redressing the comments passed about the front page picture of the June issue (No. 135), Charles Greenstreet sent a fine picture of the same squad taken before passing out from the depot in late 1939. We publish it in this issue and think that notwithstanding remarks passed previously they have been moulded into a professional lot and many went on to prove just how professional they were.

Naturally we have heard from a large number of readers and those letters that are actually in the same room as our typewriter at this stage of production include dispatches from our old friend F. W. (Dickie) Bird, M.B.E., G.M. of The Ministry of Defence, P.O. Box 113, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman who sent two letters as a matter of fact and he was able to add considerably to our information on the life and life-style of the late Garth Handley. Mrs. Bella Todman who sent a card from the U.S.A. where she had gone to visit her brother. Bella can usually be found at 4 Julian House, Kingwood Drive, Dulwich, London S.E.21. It was nice to see her back in time for the cenotaph parade. Then there was a card from Joe Dewsnap in Australia where some of our Australian readers are trying to catch up with him. A. S. (Tony) Keeling, O.B.E. of 4 Dean Close, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 5LP who sent a photograph and to whom we owe a letter. A. W. (Bob) Rowberry of 28 Britannia Square, Worcester WR1 3DH and a photograph of his horse appears in this issue which in turn connects with an article in a previous issue. Bob's horse, Jimmy, was responsible for several letters as a matter of fact and we pray the animal has a good syce in the great stables above. Percy Page of 12a Frank Cook Court, School Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire OX5 2HW is another from whom we have heard. Then there is George Benbow, B.E.M., Ordinnal's House, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo, Malta who must be added to the list and also R. W. (Ron) Tyler, 45 Greystone Avenue, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 1LR was also kind enough to write.

The 1984 Olympic Games was a world apart from the way the rest of us live our lives and those who are sporting minded sat up through the late hours watching the chase for gold. But two of the participants impinge into the Palestine Police world and we feel sure that the details will interest readers. Sometime ago D. J. (Don) Macauley of 33 Cray Avenue, Orpington, Kent BR5 4AA sent us a copy of a press cutting from the Kentish Times entitled "Shaping up for the Olympics" and the article and picture referred to 17 year old Natalie Davies, a local girl who is a member of the St. Pauls Cray Valley Gymnastics Club. Everyone was very excited at the time because she had been selected for the British Olympics Team. The P.P. connection comes because Don's wife Joyce is Natalie's trainer. We are pleased to report that her protege did very well in Los Angeles although she did not actually come home with a medal. But many people watched her on television on 26th September last when she beat all her rivals and took the women's title to become top British Women's Athlete at Wembley. We and the rest of the world will see a lot more of young Natalie in the years to come and full credit must go to Joyce Macauley for all her efforts. It must be a thrill for her. Many of our members will know the Macauley's who regularly attend P.P. functions at London, South-Eastern Counties and South Midlands. Joyce has our congratulations. But there is another Olympic connection and this time we stretch across the Atlantic. Let us quote the Daily Telegraph in the matter. "Shawn O'Sullivan is not only widely tipped to become Canada's first boxing gold medallist since 1932 but is expected to prove one of the tournament's outstanding performers." Also "O'Sullivan, 20, whose father served in the British Palestine Police after leaving his native County Cork, is as Canadian as the Maple Leaf." That is the connection. Michael O'Sullivan was one of us but in more recent times has been a bus driver in Toronto. He did some boxing in Palestine but we cannot find anyone to give us any details. Sadly his son lost on points to an American although there are those who think the referee got it wrong. We shall certainly hear more of young Shawn but meanwhile can any of our Canadian comrades rope his father into the association? We have to thank Walter Gibbs of 17 Barrowsfield, Cuckfield, West Sussex RH17 5ER for the newspaper cutting.

Peter Lee now at Beth Shalom, 85 Vause Road, Durban. R.S.A. has kindly kept in touch and came across a Vivian Brandon who once served in the Bechuanaland Police but was seconded for a time to the Palestine Police, thought to have been 1946-48 but Peter does not give further details. Does any reader recall him? We are tempted to ask. Should he be a member? In other words, is he one of us? Someone who is very much one of us is G. R. (Gordon) Willis. He lives at 6 St. Pauls Close, Bovey Tracey, near Newton Abbot, Devon, and sent a

picture of three gleaming new Morris Cowley motor cars just arrived in Jerusalem for delivery to the force. This is one for the archives. Gordon seems to be of 1945 vintage and states he went to Palestine with Noel Nicholson. B/Const. 2606 who was killed soon afterwards on 27th December, 1945 and earned for himself a posthumous K.P.M. for gallantry, and John Morris who went on to Port and Marine Section and thought to have gone to the United States of America afterwards to settle. Where is he now? He asks and this association has no record of John Morris, so we ask too. There is a further enquiry about the state of Palestine Police graves in Palestine and we shall be writing privately on that score. But it raises the question as to whether we should give fuller details of our graves in Palestine in some future issue. We shall think it over.

Jack and Helen Chettle, 3 Thoresby Road, Bramcote, Nottinghamshire NE9 3EY must be very proud of their son, John who is a golf star and from time to time brings himself to press notice. For that matter Jack plays golf too and it raises the old poser. Could this association produce a whole team of golfers to win a cup of two? We have enough talent surely. Douglas Hastings of 26 Glebelands, West Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PY fastened his attention to the front cover photograph on the last issue. He is of the opinion that the figure on the left looked very much like a B/Constable Smith with whom he served in 1946 at Mustashfa Police Station, Jerusalem, previously of the Parachute Regiment. Were it to prove to be so, then a letter, Smith to Hastings, would be most welcome. But we have since been able to button hole Neville Naunton, the other figure shown who states quite clearly that the Smith in the picture married an Armenian lady and now lives in the County of Leicestershire. He intends to make contact and try to get him into, or back into, our association. Of the 50 Smiths in our ranks we must wait and see which one is unfolded. S. W. (Micky) Hills whose address is very well known already has been in touch with Sir William Fitzgerald who lives at Brighton and is a former Attorney General in Palestine. This gentleman seems to continue to say a lot of nice things about the P.P. in general for which we thank him and we pray he may enjoy good health for a long time to come. J. G. (Graham) Fiddes has been on the transfer list from Zimbabwe to U.K. and friends can now find him at 33 Gwealmayowe Park, Falmouth Road, Helston, Cornwall TR13 0PE after a temporary address in the Midlands. He found it a bit of a wrench leaving Zimbabwe after 31 years which is understandable. But as he and his wife were looking for a 'little place' in Devon or Cornwall. May we hope they have found their Shangri-La. J. H. (John) Lendon of 14 North Road, Sidley, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex is 81 he proudly proclaims and in this we congratulate him, although the information came as a postscript to his letter and was not the real reason for writing. He is hoping to receive a reply to a letter

he sent to Vic Cannings. He served with Vic at Central Police Station in 1939. John does not say which of the four Central Police Stations he refers (Jerusalem — Jaffa — Tel Aviv or Haifa etc.) but that probably does not matter. We think we should tell John that at time of going to press Vic Cannings Esquire is on holiday in Teneriffe but is also at a temporary address in Surrey for a few months. That address is:— Moorings, Vale Wood Drive, Lower Bourne, Farnham, Surrey.

We must not forget to mention letters from H. B. (Harry) Hartley of 67 Fountain Drive, Robert Town, Liversedge, West Yorkshire WF15 7PY. David Cranston, 15 Wadhurst Close, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 7AZ. R. C. (Rocky) Knight, 6 Lime Way, Maple Drive, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex CR0 8RH. Tom Wilson, Dun Cow Inn, Old Elvet, Durham City, Co. Durham. Michael Hook of 8 St. Oswald's Road, Hexham, Northumberland BE46 2HF (of whom more anon). Jim deLacy of 49 Southlands, Orpington, Kent BR6 9NE. Finally Jack Sharpe of 1 Blackwell End, Potterspurty, Towcester, Northamptonshire NN12 7QE who sent some photographs about which we are still pondering. But to refer back to Michael Hook for a moment. Some time back he had asked for the address of John Baskett and now for some reason we cannot trace that we actually sent it. In case we got our wires crossed. John's address is:— J. H. Baskett, C.P.M., Oakleigh, Kilminster, Nr. Axminster, Devon EX13 7SQ.

C. A. B. (Cabby) Walter the Secretary of South-Eastern Counties Branch has put in for a Leave Pass to absent himself from his duties in order to visit Australia. Shall we let him go? One is disposed to ask. Yes he has deserved it comes the ready reply. So off you go Cabby and doubtless the branch will have plenty of chores for you to do when you get back. Only don't talk to anyone down there about cricket. It's a sensitive subject at the moment. At Littlehampton the South-Eastern Counties Branch enjoyed the company of Lt. Col. Harold Dibbens at the annual Dinner/Dance in Littlehampton. As Captain Dibbens, C.M.P., later C.R.M.P., he got around Palestine and seems to have known a lot of our chaps and we have had sight of a Menu and Entertainment Card arranged by Jerusalem District C.I.D. on Christmas Day 1941 at which Captain Dibbens was a guest. Some pretty well known names appear on it and we see that of Jack Bewsey, known often as Jack Boozy is one such. Do readers know that F. J. (Jack) Bewsey, B.E.M. still resides at 3 The Byways, Skinners Lane, Ashted, Surrey and as far as we know still works at the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory in the gun room there. Another mentioned on the menu card is Fred Barty. Do readers also know that F. H. (Fred) Barty lives at 49 Aldwick Road, Beddington, Surrey CR0 4PN. What is more to the point. Do these two old comrades in the same billet know that they live at the most 15 miles apart?

It was good to see Mick Skelly at the Cenotaph Parade and to hear his laugh although it does not prevent us from mentioning him in the Sick Parade list in this issue. Mick Skelly is a former Nabulsi. Have you all noticed that Nabulsi's have something going for them and it is interesting to watch two Nabulsi's edging together at our functions. Bert (Tubby) Ogden had Stan Baxendale pointed out to him in a very crowded room after the reunion dinner and from then onwards it was like two unlike poles of a magnet exerting subtle influences. The one drew near the other and that was that for the rest of the evening. Do Khalili's and Acre-onians and Safedites behave like that? Joe Keeton of York suffered a mutilated newsletter in September and was ever so nice about it. Several pages missing and others duplicated. So we sent him another copy. Then someone else had the same problem and we gave him a further copy. The printer is having his own court martial but according to the immutable laws of physics as they apply in the printing world, there must be at least six more bad copies. Where are they? We wonder.

The last issue described in some detail the Palestine Police tour of The Holy Land this year and it mentioned the fact that His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan received the party. Later he sent to the association a fine coloured portrait of himself with a message penned in his own hand underneath which reads:

"To my friends, members of the Palestine Police Old Comrades Association with my sincere wishes."

Hussein 21-6-1984

The photograph was on view at the last Annual General Meeting and Annual Reunion Dinner. Will there be one from the President of Israel we dare ask?

We have to thank Noel Davies, Apt. 510, 1900 Sheppard Avenue East, Willowdale, Ontario M2J 4T4. (Sounds to us as though he is near Bill Daw — another Willowdale man). But Noel sent a marvellous letter which is sadly too long to go into in detail at this moment but is too good to discard so will probably end in the archives. In the next issue we hope to tell readers what happened to H.M.P.L. Sea Lion. Les Stelfox recently asked what happened to her and a former Port and Marine member wrote to Les to tell him. The scribe was Les Pedgrift. Its a nice story and is worth waiting for. There is nothing like a photograph to get former P.P. chinwagging. That is just what happened when Philip Moore of 117 Moseley Wood Gardens, Leeds, South Yorkshire LS16 7JD went down south to visit his old pal Arthur Dawson who lives at Bromley in Kent. The photograph entitled "Somewhere down South" on page 21 of the last June issue got them going. Could they see 'Chan' Chandler and Paddy Laverty of No. 2. Coy. P.M.F.? They ask. We cannot assist with the names but the armoured cars look like pre-P.M.F. vehicles to us. Home

made Wagners from Jaffa in fact. Does this make a difference to the enquiry? We shall see. But please write direct to Philip Moore.

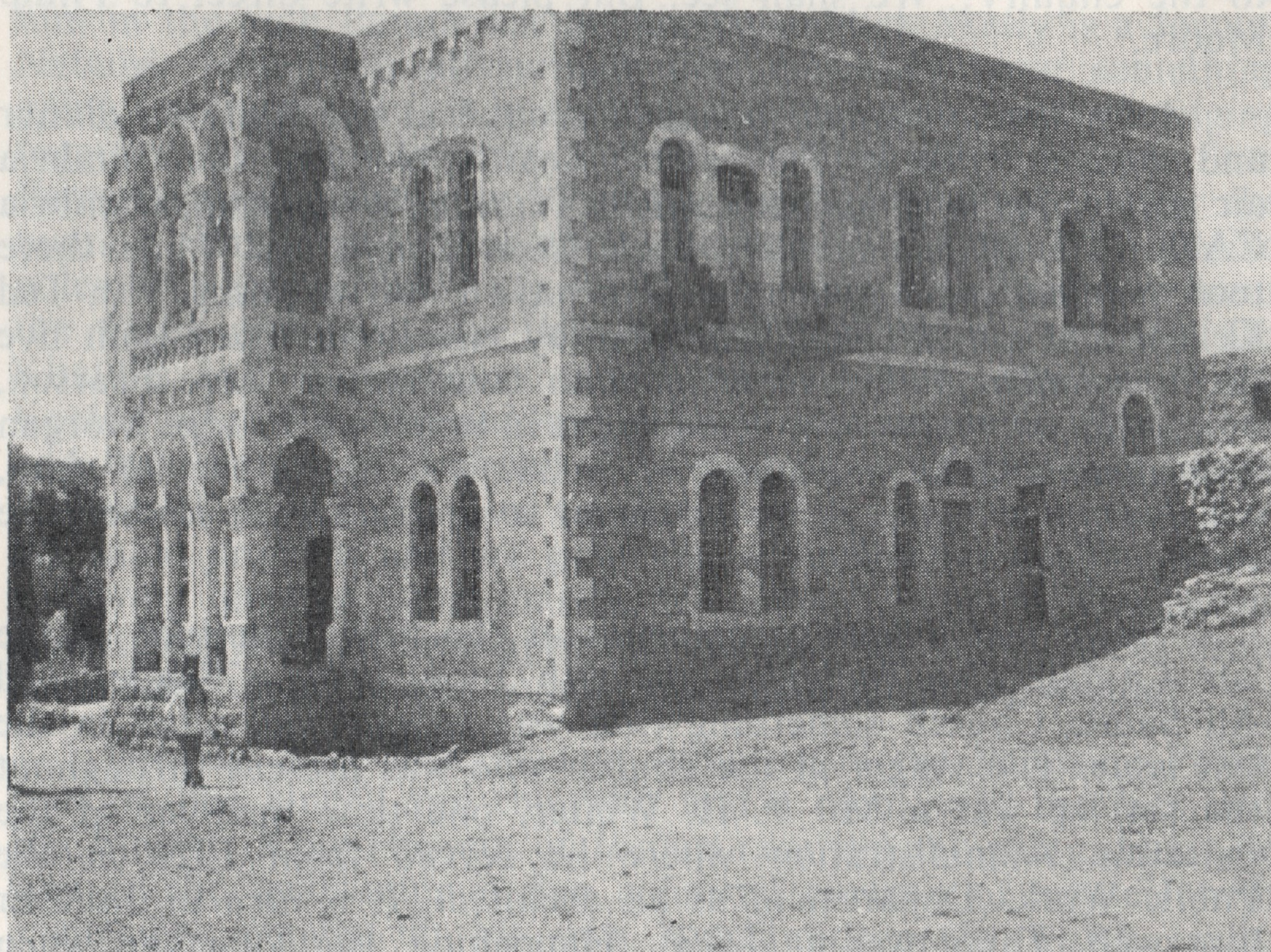
John (Jack) Sempill bounced around at the Reunion dinner and seemed to be in the best of health. Not just the Cumbria air surely. He lives at 7 Inkerman Terrace, Whithaven, Cumbria CA28 7TY. He is recently back from Kenya and while there took a safari trip and managed to have a full morning with Ted Kelsall and contacted Bill Hopley by telephone. They both live there. Another P.P. he was able to contact was Alec Pearson, now sadly deceased. John tried to get in touch with Judge Morgan in Nairobi but he was away on holiday. A useful sort of chap, our Jack, and we hope he continues to produce such exuberance for a long time to come.

There was a nice coincidence at the funeral service of the late Captain Guy Lydekker on 29th June, 1984 at Sanderstead All Saints Church something that was reported in detail in the last issue. The verger at the church who was present throughout the service was a Mr. P. H. Winter, one time member of the Palestine Administration where he served from 1926 in the Public Works Department as an architect. It is nice to discover him well. There was a H.O.P. 'Happening' not long ago when Donald Miles from Auckland, New Zealand spent a week at Northleach at the home of Gerald (Dodger) Green of Margerstan House, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3PG. Naturally a mini Hulfi was arranged at which Doug Brian former P.P. and Major John Mayne ex Parachute Regiment in Haifa days, joined Don and his wife Vera and host Gerald for a farm walk at Doug's splendid farm in Gloucestershire. On another occasion the Miles and Gerald dined in London at the Special Forces Club. So these things can and do happen in the countryside but one has to keep ones ear to the ground. Our old friend Solo Epstein of Tel Aviv (former PP and Israeli police) was in Aberdeen recently for an IPA conference where he was tracked down by S. P. (Sidney) Johnson who attended the same function. Two other former PP and Israeli police were also there but their names have escaped identification. Nice to know they are still about.

Finally Sam Jones (Millington-Jones in Palestine) 9 Kings Walk, Grays, Essex and Charles Gardiner, 18 Loughrigg Terrace, Mereside Marton, Blackpool, Lancashire have both written. We really owe Charles a decent reply and aim to see that he gets it.

It is not easy to bring these notes to a satisfactory conclusion. Items worthy of mention are always discovered with each browse through the pile. One such item is contained in an old letter from Luke Hannon, 1 Chalfont Place, Malahide, Co. Dublin dated 3rd July last and he refers in turn to the death of someone that must have been well known to those who served in Cyprus

HEBRON No. 2 BILLET—1939



Photograph from Jack Sharpe.

1955 to 1960 after the Stand Down. He informs us that Peter Widdowson, one time A.S.P. Special Branch in Paphos, Troodos and Limassol died on 24th May, 1984 when he collapsed across the wheel of his motor car. In a much more recent letter (13th September) Luke was able to direct our attention to an enjoyable book called *The Longest Day*, many of those who did not read the book would have seen the film of the 'D' Day landings in Normandy. Why should Luke do this? Simply because he directs our interests to four separate references to Sergeant James Percival (Paddy) deLacy of the Kings Regiment attached to the 3rd Canadian Division who made the landings that day. This is of course our own former P.P. Paddy deLacy, a modest sort of chap once of the Northern Frontier Division. Anyone acquiring the book will find it of great interest whether or not they know Paddy.

The Roger Courtney controversy is now positively decided but the paragraph we had in mind from Mrs. Betty Hooper, 12 Foreland Court, Rails Lane, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 9LH simply must wait for the next issue because of space. Her kind letter which has not been acknowledged clinches it for all time. He lies buried in Africa we have to tell you. Of course many of you know that already.

BOURJ BILLET—HAIFA 1933



Photograph from Arthur Brown.

A RECENT CANADIAN HUFLI



Left to right — Back Row — Fred Plunkett, Noel Davies, Allan Guest and Tom Harbison.

Front — Bill Evans and Ed Doty.

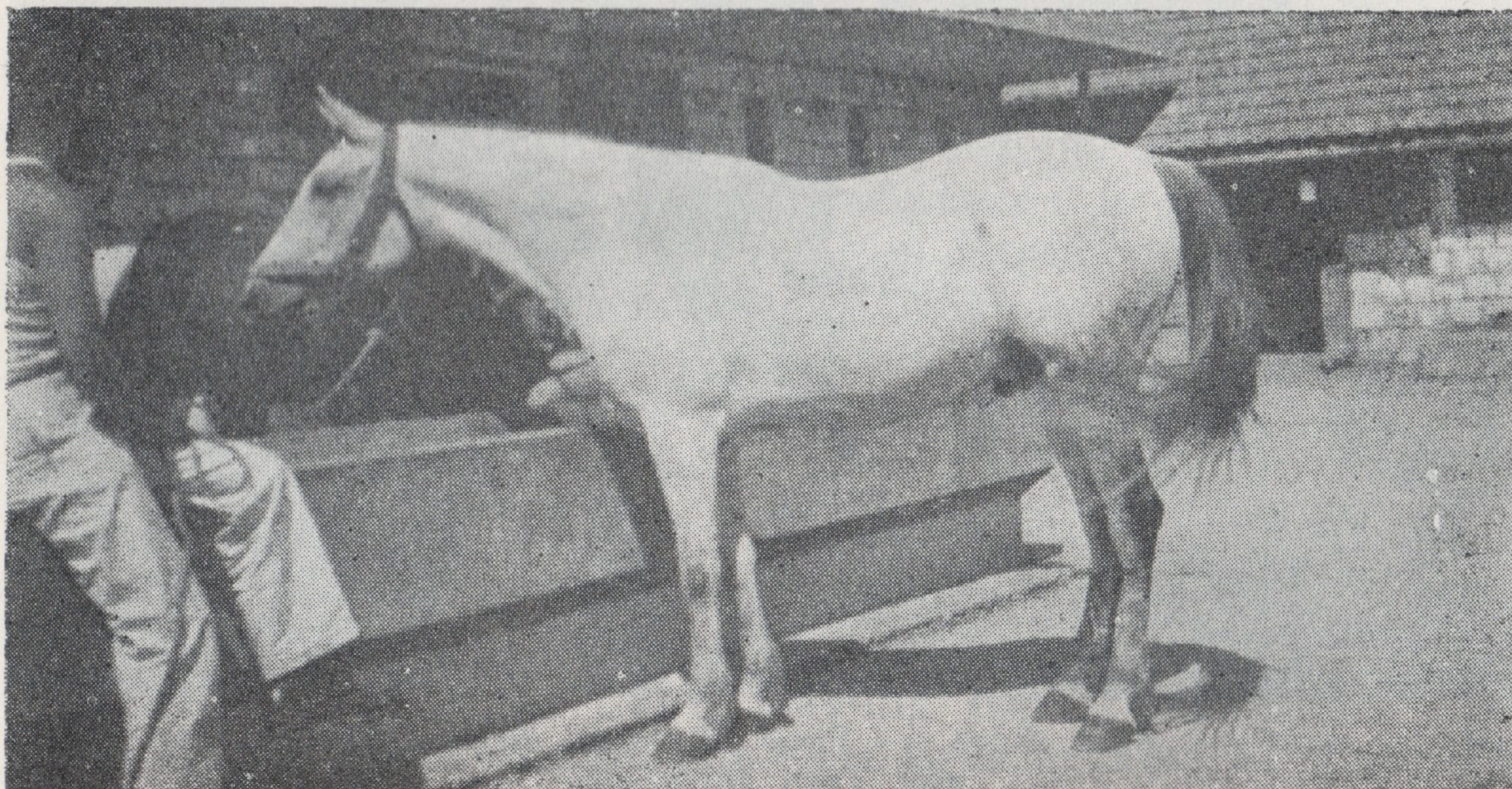
Photograph from Noel Davies.

JUST SOME OF THE CREAM



Left to right. Rear Rank — ?, ?, John Brown, ?, Crowley.
Centre rank — Alexander, ?, Dawson, Arthur Wiltshire, Dines,
Jack Allen.
Front rank — Austin, ?, Dick Coles, Cope, ?, Peter Cox, John Docherty.
Seated — Reg Sims (Drill), 'Topper' Brown (Musketry),
Insp. Jasper Stinson, Major James Munro (Sup't.),
Captain Wilkinson (A.S.P.), Charles Greenstreet (Law).
Photograph from Charles Greenstreet (See also Home Notes — Ed.).

JIMMY



Bob Rowberry's horse which was subject of an article in issue no. 134
Photograph from Joe Butler.

HAIFA C.I.D.—CIRCA 1947



Left to right — Standing: Melville, ?, ?, ?, Johnson (1), Bennett, ?,
Coles, Johnson (2), ?, Ives, Hyland, Davies, Williams, ?, ?, Shadford,
Ormsby, Lamb, Terry.

Sitting: Sgt. Morley, Sgt. Holman, A/ASP ?, Insp. ?, Sgt. Hickman,
Sgt. Jacobs.

Photograph from Frank Ormsby.

LONDON BRANCH

The branch meets on the first Saturday of every month at The Cardinal, "Headquarters", Francis Street, London, S.W.1., at 8.00 p.m. The presence of the ladies is positively encouraged.

Chairman: L. Sexton, 1a Wellington Court, St. John's Wood, London NW8 9TA. Tel: 01-722 6977.

Vice-Chairman: G. Andrews, 195 Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens, Fulham, London SW6 3SG. Tel: 01-731 6208.

Secretary: W. Anderson, 19 Priestly Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LL. Tel: 01-648 8324.

Treasurer: T. Freeburn, 24 Dale View Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6PL. Tel: 01-524 2081.

Committee: A. Burn, R. Hamilton, T. Isted, E. Jackson, P. O'Boyle, T. Shand, R. Stanners and G. Stewart.

This is the quiet season as far as branch activities go, although it should not be forgotten that to some extent the branch hosts the smooth running of the Annual General Meeting.

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the Annual Reunion Dinner and the Memorial Plot in November at Westminster Abbey. Many of our members can be seen at other branch functions which we aim to support as much as we can. But it is the Cardinal evenings that take up most of this report. In August (4th), I can say "A most successful evening." Of the Londoners who turned up there were:— Terry Shand (Association Chairman), Sid Johnson, Micky Hills, George Andrews, Tom Freeburn, Len Sexton and George Stewart who were all from Central Council with many wearing two hats as branch officers too. Others on the branch committee included Tom Isted, Bob Stanners and Alf Burn. I was there too of course. My wife Eunice, Audrey Stanners and Day Burn also came along. Then there were the other Londoners such as Bob Ellis, Ted Heading, Harry and Marjorie Jervis with Marjorie's cousin from Alberta Canada, Marjorie Carter, Bill Shearman and Bella Todman. 'Jebel' Druce and Fred Randall turned up from Hertfordshire and spearheading a large contingent from South Eastern Counties was Cabby Walter who brought with him, Charlie Heathfield, Stan Knott, George Lancaster, John and Heather McVitty, Bill and Gillian Moorehead, Ken and Hilary Freeman with daughter Fiona, Jim and George Meekins, Arthur Newell (a former P. & M. 'sparks'), 'David' and Marjorie Niven, Albert Parent with son-in-law, Jim Malone and last but not least Ron Pemble. So it can truly be said, a very enjoyable evening.

The September meeting (1st) was also pleasant but with more room to move about. Apart from many principal officers from Central Council and Branch committee, John Foster, our General Secretary, graced the occasion with his wife Dorothy. Bob Hamilton was there as was Stan and Margaret Baxendale who were absent on the previous month. Charles and Gwen Gammon and Charles and Mary Wood also turned up. Jim Eames, Stan Knott, David and Marjorie Niven, Fred Pays and Cabby Walter dropped in from out of town or from places not exactly in the middle of town. It was a good night. W.A.

HERTFORDSHIRE BRANCH

Chairman: J. Druce, 31 Parsonage Road, Welham Green, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL9 7NA. Tel: Hatfield 63857.

Secretary: F. A. Randall, 21 Elm Gardens, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL8 6RX. Tel: Welwyn Garden 21209.

Treasurer: W. J. Flynn, 590 Howlands, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 4ET. Tel: Welwyn Garden 31475.

Will all Hertfordshire Branch members please take note. A special meeting of the branch will take place on 30th January.

1985 which is the last Wednesday of the month at 8.00 p.m. and will be held at The Red Lion, Hatfield. The object of the meeting is to decide whether members of the branch wish to continue as a separate branch or to wind up the branch affairs and to join up with London Branch. The meeting is called with consent of Central Council but all branch members must be informed of the purpose and a quorum must attend in order to make an effective decision. It is unfortunate that the branch has suffered so much from bereavements, sickness and transfer of many of its members to other areas. We now need your views and it is hoped a sufficient number turn up to assist with decision taking. Meanwhile the branch wishes all other members of the association a Happy Christmas and the hope that 1985 will be a happy year for all.

J.D.
(Branch Chairman)



London Branch

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SATURDAY, 9th MARCH, 1985

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SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH

Chairman: W. H. (Bill) Church, 1 Wimbourne Avenue, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5AQ. Tel: Redhill 65488.

Vice-Chairman: Maurice B. Hill, 7 Selhurst Close, East Preston, West Sussex BN16 2SR. Tel: Rustington 76661.

Secretary: C. A. B. (Cabby) Walter, 56 Village Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3NP. Tel: 01-658 1059.

Treasurer: Maurice B. Clarke, 15 Turners Mill Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1NW. Tel: Haywards Heath 454969.

Our Annual Weekend at The Beach Hotel, Littlehampton on 8th/9th September 1984 seems to have been enjoyed by all who attended and we were able to welcome good support from Central Council and the South Midlands Branch. The principal guests were Lt. Col. Harold and Mrs. Dibbins who are local residents in Littlehampton. Lt. Col. Dibbins was responsible for Military Police operations in the Middle East and had plenty of association with the Palestine Police. He was in fact No. 6 on the terrorists hit list. We hope he enjoyed his renewed contact with us. But now for the actual weekend.

Seventy-five ladies and gentlemen sat down on Saturday to our Annual Dinner/Dance at The Beach Hotel. Our branch chairman, Bill Church, presided. Central Council were well represented with Bill Anderson, Don Cartwright, Sidney Johnson, Micky Hills, Tom Walker and John Foster. Eunice Anderson, Dorothy Foster, Joan Cartwright and Connie Walker accompanied their respective husbands. Lew and Pam Boffin and Bill and Dai Gibbons came from South Midlands Branch. The remainder appear to be branch members and include Messrs. Burrows, Gambrill, Pemble, Cranston, Turner, Niven, Willis, Clarke, Hawkridge, Hill, Yours truly (Walter and large number of guests), Blash, Brackston, Weekes, Newell, Stockwell, O'Neill, Gibbs, Cook, Macauley and our Association President Brigadier Rymer-Jones. In most cases ladies accompanied their husbands. The Toast to Absent Friends was proposed by M. W. (Mike) Brackston and the Toast to Guests and their Ladies was made by W. A. (Bill) Church the branch chairman. There was a pleasant and interesting response from Lt. Col. Dibbins. Finally, the Toast to the Association was made by D. Cartwright of Central Council which was very well received. The entire company then sang The Holy City and we danced until far too late.

On the following day at a luncheon, about 42 sat down and whereas many of the week-enders had departed, one or two

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others were able to join us. The Chairman Emeritus and Newsletter Editor, E. P. (Ted) Horne looked in from Hampshire. Mrs. Marion Thompson, a former Nursing Sister in Palestine, had to dash off for duty soon after rising from the table. This time there were no speeches. Throughout the week-end some delightful pictures by Frank (Jock) O'Neil who lives at Selsey, just nearby, were on display and attracted a lot of attention. All had a Palestine flavour which made them most enchanting. He is a clever chap.

A Sunday Lunch is arranged at The Beach Hotel, Littlehampton on 10th March, 1985 and if anyone wants a nice run with a pleasant meal and good company to start the spring, then they are welcome. Just let Albert Hawkrige (Mr. Fixit!) know in reasonable time so that proper arrangements can be made. His telephone number is: (0903) 723846. The cost should be about £5.00 per head. The branch Annual General Meeting will take place on 28th April 1985 somewhere in Surrey and details will be circulated in the next newsletter. Our support for a mid summer Cardinal meeting in London is to continue and this year members of this branch did much to make our night a success. (See London Branch Notes — Ed.). We wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and particularly Prosperous New Year.

C.A.B.W.

SOUTHERN AND WESTERN COUNTIES BRANCH

Chairman: J. Bamford, 'Elmfield', Bridge Town Hill, Totnes, South Devon TQ9 5BH. Tel: (0803) 864029.

Viue-Chairman: J. A. Jenson, 59 Bushfield Road, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8HW. Tel: (0460) 73773.

Secretary: Office vacant. J. Bamford acting. See address below.

Treasurer: Office Vacant. J. Bamford acting. See address above.

Committee: G. W. Bourne, C. W. J. Greenstreet, E. DeVal, C.P.M., W. Hall, B. P. Henwood, F. M. Kelly, Mrs. I. Mann, G. N. Simpson and C. A. Wade.

This branch is reeling from the sudden deaths of our Chairman, Reg Sandy and our Secretary, Tom Urwin, both reported in the last newsletter. The question is now 'What is to be done'. There was a quick committee meeting on 22nd July and as Branch Chairman I was given authority to act as secretary until the next A.G.M. which I have agreed to do. Tom Urwin was actually Secretary/Treasurer, a function that may also fall to a future incumbent. There was another committee meeting on 16th

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September which turned out to be a useful excuse for a mini get-together at The Courtlands Hotel, Boscombe, Bournemouth. But we are still working on the subject of a future secretary for the branch.

Meanwhile we are pressing on with the final arrangements for the Annual Dinner/Dance at The Courtlands on 1st December of this year. Always a fine success. It was well advertised in the last issue and we hope will be fully attended again. A full report will appear in the next issue.

Mrs. Alice Diaper, widow of the late Norman (B/Constable 912) Diaper has come forward from 12 Broadway Lane, Downton Close, Charminster, Bournemouth, Dorset and we hope to see or hear more from her in time. J.B.

SOUTH MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: J. H. Foster, A.R.I.C.S., 101 Howberry Road, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4SD. Tel: 01-954 6904.

Secretary/Treasurer: Lew H. Boffin, 13 Highworth Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7EG. Tel: Faringdon 20225.

An event of more than usual importance took place on Sunday, 5th August, 1984 at 13 Highworth Road, Faringdon to be precise but advertised in the June issue of the newsletter as a sort of local Hufli. Lew and Pam Boffin held a party in other words and it was a great success. The response to the invitation to Beit Lahm — the Boffin's home — turned out to be a first-class P.P. 'Get Together'. There were sufficient bottles to keep the party oiled from 11 a.m. until evening and it became difficult to keep track of all those who came and went but something like 36 were identified and spilled over into the garden. A raffle helped defray the cost. Our thanks are due to Lew and Pam for all the hard work before and afterwards and for the initiative in actually holding the function. Of those who are known to have attended the following can be listed: Archie and Sue Leadbetter from Australia who happened to be passing. John and Dorothy Foster Ron and Audrey Turner, George and Muriel Evans, Ted and Margaret Wells, John and Hope Howard, Jeff and Andrea Kearey, Frank and Carol Rawlins, Ken and Irene Drake, Alf and Iris Buton, Judy Shand, Sid Johnson and Micky Hills. There was also some Boffin type relatives in attendance.

The next issue will contain details of the annual Dinner/Dance at Blunsdon on 27th/28th October which will probably be our 'best ever'!

J.H.F.

Southern & Western Counties Branch

DINNER-DANCE

COURTLANDS HOTEL

Boscombe Spa Road, Bournemouth, Dorset

Saturday, 1st December, 1984
6.30 p.m.

Dress: Lounge Suit

Book dinner through Jim Bamford
address shown under branch news

Hotel Accommodation available

Book direct with hotel.

Tel: Bournemouth 33070/34437

Midlands Branch

ANNUAL DINNER / DANCE

KENILWORTH MOAT HOTEL

Nr. Kennilworth, Warwickshire

Saturday, 16th March, 1985
at 7.00 p.m.

Dress informal

Tickets £8.50

Book early through Les Faulkes, Secretary

35 Home Farm Crescent,
Whitnash, Leamington Spa
Warwickshire CU31 2QW.

Tel: 0962 32814

Book direct to hotel. Tel. Kennilworth (0926) 58331
(Bed/Breakfast £10.00 per person)

MIDLAND BRANCH

Chairman: Fred J. Gardiner, 14 Brampton Avenue, Hall Green,
West Midlands B28 9LG. Tel: 021-744 2640.

Vice-Chairman: E. (Ted) Butler, 2 Morgan Road, Fazeley Road,
Tamworth, Staffordshire B78 3LA. Tel: (0827) 56382.

Secretary: Les G. Faulkes, 35 Home Farm Crescent, Whitnash,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 2QW.
Tel. (0926) 32814.

Treasurer: Alf Burton, 8 Willow Street, Desford, Leicestershire
LE9 9HB. Tel: (04557) 2494.

The attendances at our monthly meetings has been getting lower for some time and so now the branch are going to have quarterly meetings. In recent months we have left the venue of the Birmingham United Services Club and tried meeting in appointed individual houses but this has been disappointing too and we have reached a stage when monthly meetings are getting a bit too much to expect. We now await further developments 'As they say'. Thus meetings in future — everyone please note — will take place back in Birmingham but on the third Saturday of the month in November, February, May and August. The B.U.S. Club being at 287 Broad Street, Birmingham.

Our successful annual dinner/dances continue and the next is planned at Kenilworth Moat House, Chesford Bridge, Kenilworth (on edge of town). (See seperate advertismment) and the day will be Saturday, 16th March, 1985. Last year was a good event and we are confident we can repeat it. See you there.

L.G.F.

EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: H. G. Elvin, High View, 80 Violet Road, Carlton,
Nottingham NG4 3QO .Tel: (0602) 871289.

Vice-Chairman: T. G. McNeill, K.P.M., 67 North Road, West
Bridgend, Nottinghamshire. Tel: (0602) 813736.

Secretary: H. G. Coaton, 6 Newton Avenue, Bingham, Nottingham-
shire BG13 8FU. Tel: (0949) 37907.

Treasurer: A. Anderson, Tai O, Lanark Close, Wollaton Park,
Nottingham. Tel: (0602) 781908.

Committee: J. Chettle, H. Hargreaves, P. Mathews and L. Rhodes.

Because we are the newest branch we were given the honour of being 'Duty Branch' at the big P.P. week-end in London on

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and their friends.

6th/7th October, 1984. J. Chettle one of our committee members gave the Toast to Absent Friends at the Reunion Dinner and did it rather well we thought and two of our branch officers carried the wreath in front of the parade on its march to the cenotaph this year. They were Messrs. Coaten and Anderson, which was a great honour. Otherwise rather quiet and planning our next Dinner/Dance in the spring, about which more will be said in the next issue.

H.G.C.

MERSEYSIDE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Sergeants Mess, Liverpool Scottish Regiment, Score Lane, Liverpool 6.

Chairman: A. Hawley, 119 Birley Street, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside, WA12 9UN. Tel: 092-52 4315.

Vice-Chairman: Peter Hornby, 2a Windsor Villas, Garstand Road, Barton, Preston, Lancashire PR3 5AA. Tel: 0772 864590.

Secretary: A. R. Gregson, 12 Regent Avenue, Liverpool L14 6UL. Tel: 051-489 2068.

Treasurer: J. M. Thomas, 7 Rimmer Avenue, Liverpool L16 2NE.

This is of course the quiet season for this branch. We are pleased to announce that once again we shall hold our own Christmas Draw in aid of the Salvation Army Home for Children and the draw will take place as usual at Old Colwyn when we go to North Wales for our pre-Christmas function which will be more fully reported in the next issue. We have suffered a death I regret to report and I name Tommy Tootell who passed away on 21st September 1984 (See obituary notices — Ed.). Also two ladies have died. Mrs Ronnie Devlin and Mrs. Eileen Doolan. (Also see obituary notices — Ed.) which leaves us in a poorer state.

But we are active in our own way and those of us who visited the Scottish Branch Dinner/Dance in August voted it a great success. We sent a fair contingent to London for the cenotaph parade and vote that a success too. We send seasonal greetings to all Palestine Policemen everywhere.

A. R. G.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH

Chairman: H. J. Keeton, 3 Heather Close, Huntington, York, North Yorkshire YO3 9PB. Tel: York 769032.

Vive-Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer: R. Saxon, 46 St. Pauls Road, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 0EX. Tel: Huddersfield 28247.

Social Secretary: D. Bland, 28 Southwood Drive, Thorne, Nr. Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN8 5QS. Tel: Thorne 813242.

Committee: E. Garbutt and W. Moss.

There was a meeting at the Bay Horse, Tadcaster on 15th July 1984 at which 32 were present and another at The Green Dragon, Emley Moor in September and this time 30 were in attendance. Our hosts for many years at the Green Dragon are going into retirement and we owe them a debt of thanks for looking after our parties so well in the past. They are known to branch members as Les and Cathy and we presented them with a set of P.P. cufflinks and a tray of plants respectively as a token of appreciation.

We have heard from: Frank and Irene Goldthorpe, Albert and Nan Creed, Stan and Jane Metcalfe, Mrs. Hilda Watts, Mrs. Kitty Symons, Jim and Phyllis Taylor, Ken and Mollie Harris, John and Kathy Brown and Gordon McIntosh. Our Christmas Luncheon will take place on 9th December, 1984 at The Mansion House, Roundhay Park, Leeds at the modest price of £8.00 per head and booking and cash should go to our social secretary Derrick Bland, whose address appears at the top of this report.

Several of us were able to get to Perth for the Scottish Branch Dinner/Dance this year. I was particularly pleased to see Jim McFeat there. We travelled out to Palestine on the same vessel and returned home on the same vessel and were in Rawdat Billet, Old City at the same time then at Generalli Billet and finally we were posted to Latrun Detention Camp together. From a photograph I recognised Arthur Tallon of Huddersfield so that a future contact was promised on that score. Later I actually bumped into Arthur in Huddersfield. There was a meeting on 18th November at The Bay Horse, Tadcaster again and I should also report that this branch sold £257 worth of Derby Sweepstake tickets which brought £128.18 into our funds.

In 1985 the Annual Dinner/Dance will take place on 13th April at The Gimcrack Suite, York Race Course all bookings through Derrick Bland who should be able to advise about hotel accommodation also.

R.S.

SCOTTISH BRANCH

Chairman: C. Kennedy, South Don, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9YE. Tel: Balmulle 242.

Secretary/Treasurer: J. M. Lindsay, 2 Lomond Bank, Glenfarg, Perthshire PH12 9PF. Tel: 05773 382.

Our 'Big one' is now over and I refer to the branch annual Dinner/Dance which took place at the Station Hotel, Perth on Saturday, 25th August, 1984 when 88 sat down to dinner and joined in a 'party' dance afterwards. Of this figure 48 came up from England and of these 20 came from Yorkshire Branch as a coach party. Scottish branch members gave good support and donations of gifts for the raffle is appreciated. The Macfeet bottle of twelve year whisky, a sort of star prize, went to the Shands from London and could not have gone to a better home than that of the Association Chairman. We have been in touch with a number of branch members who could not attend for one reason or another and they include the Christie family from Wormit, Bill Shiell from Castle Douglas, Duncan Macneil from Kippford which is just nearby the Shiell house, Les Fleming of Aberdeen, Hugh Macdonald of Inverness, Mrs Madge Beveridge of Oakham in Rutland (of whom we hope she has settled into her new environment), John Thomson of Perth and lastly our own branch chairman, Cecil Kennedy who lives at St. Andrews. Many of these kindly donated cash or prizes for the raffle.

Of the great night itself. After the usual opening toasts. Michael Hook gave the Toast to Absent Friends which came in the form of a poem which he wrote himself and published in the last issue of the newsletter on page 61. The Toast to the Association was given by the Association Treasurer Sidney Johnson and the formal part of the evening ended with everyone joining in the choruses of The Holy City led by a soprano (Name not to hand — Ed.). I can only name some of the visitors from England and those that come to mind are: John and Helen Chettle. Alan and Nancy Guest (over from Canada), George and Joyce Stewart (London and Central Council), Adrian (Slooge) and Kay Hawley (Merseyside). Peter and Sheena Hornby (Lancashire and Central Council) and Charlie and Noel Stewart. But others who were there, include Roy (Pasha) Lamond and his wife Lily, and daughter Lillas, Bob Connor, Geoffrey (Happy) Simpson, and Alan Guest. Now we must start to plan next years function.

On 21st October of this year the branch held a meeting at the Isle of Skye Hotel in Perth at 12 noon for a luncheon at the usual price of £3.50 per head and I can mention something about who came along in the next issue. We have heard from

Bob and Pat Field, John Grieve has come into this branch after returning to the U.K. from extensive service in the Royal Hong Kong Police. Friends will find John's new address in the Changes of Address section. Ernie Kay has been in touch too.

Bob Christie celebrated his 81st birthday on 15th July last (St. Swithin's Day). His two daughters Dorothy and Margaret seem to be looking after him very well, although he is still confined to barracks because of his health. Jimmy Dods of Dundee is also 'confined' for very similar reasons. Jimmy Hoy and Roy Lamond on the other hand seem fully recovered from their respective ailments and so are 'Minor' Thomson and Jimmy Scrimgeour both recovered from indispositions. The branch wish all old comrades a Happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

J.M.L.

AUSTRALIA (New South Wales Branch)

Chairman: W. R. (Bill) Wiggins, 1 Munoorra Street, Seaforth 2092.

Vice-Chairman: Harry Steel, 14 Sefton Road, Thornleigh, Sydney 2120.

Secretary: F. L. Ormsby, Unit 23, 39 Woodstock Street, Bondi Junction, Sydney 2022.

Treasurer: E. L. Jeffrey, 6/16 Waratah Street, Ruchcutters Bay, 2011.

On 29th June the branch had its usual two monthly meeting at the British Ex-Services Club and Bill Wiggins presided with his wife, Winsome also present. Doug Dorricot and Joe Kremer were also there with yours truly and Iris my wife and we all had dinner together. Afterwards we were joined by Mike and Margaret Cleasby, George Limn and Ted and Myra Jeffrey. It was a cheerful and friendly evening. On 8th July, Iris and I hosted a small lunch party at our home for James and Mary Bidmead, Ted and Myra Jeffrey, Joe Kremer and an Australian friend of ours. Seven weeks later on 31st August we again had a branch gathering. This time the Cleasby's, Joe Kremer and I sat down to dinner and were afterwards joined by Harry and Betty Steel and the Jeffreys. One of our favourite venue's for P.P. branch gatherings is, or was, the Royal Motor Yacht Club in Sydney. We intended to hold a Christmas lunch there. Alas it caught fire and made quite a spectacular burn up.

We are in touch with Bill Anderson and Paddy Collins who are still in Tin Can Bay (Queensland). Arch Leadbetter is wandering around the U.K. Derry and Ann Atkinson. Paddy and Hazel Kenny (New Zealand) and Ken Williams. Because of a

current rail strike whereby the Atkinsons cannot get back home and are marooned in Queensland and because Iris and I propose to go on holiday to Queensland (written 3rd September) and because the Kenny's may also go there. We recognise some sort of gravitational pull to Tin Can Bay. Looks like a possible reunion will take place. According to the newsletter Joe Dewsnap might even be there and I shall try to find him. Jim Hagarty is in good fettle and is still deeply involved in the affairs of the Guards Association of New South Wales and is President, no less. Not bad for a Coldstreamer/Palestine Policeman. F.L.O.

AUSTRALIA (The rest of it — or the big bit)

Having mentioned Tin Can Bay, Queensland in the previous report, we might as well start with a letter from that place, sent by Bill Anderson who is really a Sydneysider who has gone north for the winter. In a letter dated 1st August, Bill is in anticipation of many visits from P.P. who normally can be found in other parts of Australia. He also mentions the Atkinsons, the Orsmbys and the Kennys as successive visitations are planned. Paddy Collins is already there. It is nice to know that Bill is in touch with his friend Yuda (Judah Leon) Prag in Israel and someone who has been a great help to this association when visiting that land. We are pleased to know the contact is maintained. Bill points out that his daughter, Irene is likely to be visiting England and Scotland next May or June followed by France and Holland and we hope to see something of her.

Moving south to South Australia in fact, we had a pleasant letter from Mrs Gertrude Davidson, 40 Church Street, Magill, 5072, widow of the late Gordon Davidson and she was kind enough to enclose a few photographs that might be of possible newsletter interest. One of them is a certainty and we hope to squeeze it into a future issue. Friends will be pleased to know that Gertrude seems to be happy and settled into her way of life and this is good news indeed. It only remains to thank her for the photographs. Then moving southwards even more and getting dangerously near to the South Pole came a letter from Charles Barton, P.O. Box 383, Launceston, Tasmania 7250. He explains that he was accepted for the P.P. in 1935 but was unable to travel because of a bout of measles so that it was not until May 1936 that his party travelled by train to Marseilles thence ship to Port Said. His date of joining the force being the date of arrival in Jerusalem. In a cunning and devious sort of way, it might be supposed that Charles could boast of being 1935 vintage and he would be right. Doubtless the records show differently and in any case he is not a cunning or devious sort of chap. This ex A.S.P. seems to be very much at home in his chosen land of adoption and it was nice to receive his letter.

We can boast three letters from Western Australia, two of them from the same source. The double epistle man being Charles Eadon-Clarke of 16 Camfield Road, Greenmount, Western Australia 6056. He reports that there was a P.P. gathering on 6th September, 1984 at Anzac House, Perth and those present included Roger Dracup, Frank Pizer, Bill Smith, Alex Jerrat, John Storey, Arthur Wiltshire and of course Charles Eadon-Clarke. There was an apology from Paddy Thompson who was away in the U.S.A. They planned a Christmas function for 30th November. This is all wonderful news for the rest of us, always anxious to support any revivalist movement and we hope this small coterie of P.P. creme-de-la-creme continue to meet in this fashion for many years to come. Charles 'E-C' is to be regarded as 'Our man in Western Australia' and is a useful contact person for anyone wanting to write or make enquiries. It seems he has been in touch with the following members: John Sudlow, Lancashire — Peter Lee, South Africa — Ken Blackburn, Dorset — and Rowena Matheson-Cullen, Cyprus (the Northern Part which is now Turkey). Have you noticed a heavy pre-curtain atmosphere of the Police Players in this lot? Only wants Ray Brothers to drop over from New Zealand to make up a full cast. (Just a thought — Ed.). The Eadon-Clarks who are grandparents by the way, are particularly pleased with the arrival of daughter, Elizabeth and her husband Patrick and year old son, David, who are going to settle in Australia. They have another son, Charles Jnr., daughter in law Sally and grandson Paul in Brighton U.K. We wonder whether there might be another migratory movement afoot.

The other Western Australian to write was our old friend Arthur Wiltshire of 23 Halgania Way, Duncraig, 6023 who like Charles Greenstreet was able to recognise many members of the squad shown on the front cover of the June issue 1984. Thereon was John Docherty and within the obituary notices of the same issue was a report of the same John Docherty deceased. A sad coincidence really but with a nice twist for someone held in such high regard in Palestine. We enjoyed his letter.

EDITOR

NEW ZEALAND BRANCH (Auckland)

Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer: Norman S. Stewart, 39 Walter Street, Takapuna, Auckland 9. Tel: 493 458.

The branch gathered itself together on 9th September, 1984 at the home of John and Robyn Binsley. Those present included:— Messrs. F. Brothers, R. Hill, D. Wilcockson, F. Mouque, J. Binsley (Jack), J. Binsley (John), G. Hamilton, T. Cottam, J. Miller,

E. Smith and N. S. Stewart (Exact football eleven ? — Ed.). There were apologies from J. Barnett and R. Brothers. In the course of the business side of the meeting there was a comment made that a tie ordered by D. Wilcockson in September, 1983 had still not arrived a year later an aggravating thing that will doubtless be sorted out in departments well away from New Zealand. At least we hope so. Our Christmas Curry Lunch has been booked for 9th December at the home of Frank and Lola Brothers. After the meeting everyone enjoyed an excellent Buffet/Lunch.

The view from the Binsley home overlooks the beautiful Waitemata Harbour and is wonderful. The only shadow over the event was the lately lamented death of Ken Pike but we owe the Binsley household, which includes three lovely daughters a vote of thanks for wonderful day. Paddy Thompson of Western Australia passed through Auckland recently on his way to Hawaii on business and we met and chatted. We served together in Kenya during the Mau Mau business under Ken Hadingham at the time when Paddy was 2nd i/c Fort Hall Division and I was Provincial Transport Officer so we had a lot of 'Do you remember' to get through. My wife, Hanna and I, really enjoyed his visit.

Christmas Greetings to all old comrades from the Kiwi Branch. N.S.S.

There was a welcome letter in addition to the above quarterly report from Jack Binsley, 63 Selwyn Avenue, Mission Bay, Auckland 5 and he reports that should there be any enquiries regarding his welfare, then the news is, Connie and he both enjoy good health but activities are now restricted to golf, bowls and bridge which at 78 is not bad. With this we agree. But see also Greetings Section.

EDITOR

CANADA

There has been a certain amount of Canadian activity within the association this last quarter which ought not to go unrecorded. Of the letters received, one from W. G. (Bill) Jeffrey of 939 English Bluff Road, Tsawwassen, Delta, British Columbia V4M 2N6 is of great interest. There were some interesting Palestine flavoured enclosures which kept us quiet for a long time while we studied them and of particular interest was a photostat copy of the Jaffa Race Club meeting for 3rd December, 1932 — the 22nd of its kind which took place at Sarafand and an enclosure ticket for the Ramleh Vale Hunt Race Meeting on 3rd April the following year. Bill Jeffrey reminds us that he spent only three years in Palestine yet the nostalgia of the 1931-33 years is as strong as in any of us. Bill

wonders whether J. A. M. Faraday recalls winning his race (The second at 2.00 p.m.) on his horse Juanita, because that is what is recorded. These days our 'William' owns half a dozen race horses in Canada and is a steward at his local race meetings. May this old comrade continue to prosper. Moving eastward we come to a missive from Ifor Jones, 86 Lake Ridges Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2Y 1K4 who has apparently been spending last winter travelling around Florida with his brother (who lives in Leeds — U.K.). Ifor reminds us that he served in Jaffa for a long time with his old friend the late R. T. (Roy) Mann and he was instrumental in helping to found the old Manchester Branch of the Association, the first branch outside London. (See also Greetings Section — Ed.).

W. A. (Arthur) Donald of 5808 — 141 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6H 4A4 telephoned out of the blue while taking a holiday in his native Northern Ireland and papers were dispatched for him to enrol into the association. We hope to be able to report that he has done so. Don Cartwright, M.B.E., C.P.M. a member of Central Council who is either compelled or impelled to visit Canada from time to time managed to contact Desmond Crafter Esquire of some obscure parish in Toronto (We have Apartment 608, 320 Tweedsmuir Avenue, Toronto M5P 2Y3 listed as his address) and was able to convey the best wishes of his former squad mates at the depot, or those that still survive, some five in number. We gather he is well. Des served as a driver for many years in the Rosh Pina — SaSa sector in Galilee and will be best remembered there. Finally Bill Daw of 19 Pamcrest Drive, Willowdale, Ontario M2M 2M2 wrote and to be honest this editor owes him a longish sort of letter. But it was nice to hear from this well known former Jenini.

EDITOR

AFRICA (Various Parts)

Zimbabwe scores a point with two letters this quarter, both from G. A. (Taffy) Maynard, whose Kraal is at P.O. Box 1723, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe who seems to be in fairly good health except for a nasty infection which laid him low last Christmas and took its time to clear up. His first letter dated 29th July informed us that he 'hoped' to be present at the big P.P. week-end in London in October and just as we were looking forward to greeting him, another letter arrived, dated 16th September to say that he had been obliged to cancel because he was not allowed to bring sufficient funds with him to make the trip possible. So now it is next year we look forward to seeing him, when he might be allowed extra 'ackers' to make it all worthwhile. May his trip prove possible in due course.

Swaziland is next, this time a letter from Peter Dodds of P.O. Box 777, Mbabane, Swaziland and he sent a most delightful Port and Marine flavoured letter about the section's Haifa billet problems. This was evidently brought on by Onbashi's article on the subject of our ancient billets. It seems that Port and Marine could attract the same attention from terrorists as Haifa District Headquarters and looked for other premises. To quote Peter's letter "Port and Marine folded their tents and crept quietly away". They had done a stealthy 'recce' of Jaffa Road and found a little road conveniently reaching to the back of the beer garden behind Pross's Restaurant, called Hospital Street and half way up that location was a small hospice tucked away behind trees. Here Peter Dodds and Dave Davies shared a room next to the kitchen and to get a cup of tea in bed simply meant leaning through a serving hatch. Sergeants Tyndall, Connelly, Foster, Otto and latterly Oliver of Jenin fame were all there at the time. At the last moments of life in the force, they all moved back into the Haifa enclave and lived in the Port and Marine Police Station. That is a nice story or at least we enjoyed it and thanks must go to Peter who is now hundreds of miles from the sea for recording it for us.

John Fforde of 22 Riverclub Village, P.O. Box 883, Riverclub 2149, R.S.A., sent a short cryptic note which was really for us to remember him at the Annual Reunion Dinner but also served the purpose of letting us know he is alright. The word alright being the best adjective to describe a state of health in which John is clearly less than 100% fit. At least we hope he is not in great discomfort and is cheerful.

Finally, a charming letter from J. L. Monro of P.O. Box 3600, Windhoek, South West Africa/Namibia 9000 is worth passing on to readers. He reminds us that he sailed for Palestine in April 1933 in the old P. & O. liner Kaiser-i-Hind with such well known old comrades as Geoff Ranoe, Hugh Johnston-Scott, Jack Bradley and Fell and all under the command of Sedergreen who was rejoining and who soon afterwards went to Safed as a Corporal. In 1939, John was transferred to Jamaica and after that to Kenya in 1954, finally to retire as S.S.P. Northern Province. Then to live in Guernsey as neighbours of 'Abe' Abrahams and finally to South-West Africa for his health. We are all glad he is all right.

EDITOR

OBERAMMERGAU — 1984

Extracts from a report dated 10th July, 1984 which was withheld from the last issue because of the untimely death of Tom Urwin. Now published in happy memory of a few former

THE LOVELL SOCIETY & BIBLE LAND SOCIETY JOINT STAMP FELLOWSHIP

The above stamp fellowship is run by Eric and Mary Peacock of:

"White Gates",
The Street,
EAST PRESTON,
West Sussex BN16 1HZ.

It started in 1946 to help the Lovell Home for Blind Girls which was one time at Beit Jala. It later moved to Bethlehem and is now situated in East Jerusalem.

When it started it raised £10 in 1946 but now with the help of keen philatelists and supporters it is hoped to raise £1000 each year.

The home was quite well known to some members of the force, and the Peacocks came to know several Palestine Police Officers, and they now ask: Can any ex-P.P. help? Booklets of British and Overseas stamps are made up and the profits of sales go towards the home. Of course any stamps (swaps and so forth) not wanted can be sent anyway and these will help towards the target amount.

Somewhere in Jerusalem there are some blind children who need money to keep the home going. Please help.

Palestine Policemen who were present at some stage of the tour and in memory of the late Tom Urwin who arranged the trip.

My wife, Freddie, and I accompanied Tom and Betty Urwin on a two weeks coach tour to the Tyrol which included a two-day stay at Oberammergau in order to see the Passion Play. There we met with and were warmly entertained by Humbert and Mary Pernetta (Humbert is a former Palestine Policeman who now lives in Germany). We formed a happy party and exchanged many tales between meals laced with liquids. Readers probably know that the Passion Play takes place every ten years and is next due to be seen in 1990, but 1984 was a special year which celebrated the 350th performance which commemorates the survival of the village from the effects of the plague in AD1634. Humbert, who was usually known as Umberto in Palestine — born in England and served in a Scottish Regiment as a young man — has been resident in Oberammergau for many years and is now allowed to take part in the crowd scenes with his daughter Veronica, while his son, Conrad sang in the choir. The whole affair is remarkable when one considers that the audience of about 5000 daily must be multiplied by five for the five days a week of performances, and all must be transported to Oberammergau from many distant lands and accommodated in the village as well as having to be fed. There is a strict rule that all those taking part as well as the choir, orchestra and support services must be local. Humbert knew nearly everyone and the presence of three former Palestine Policemen in the community was the subject of great interest by residents and world wide visitors. Had the party been 30 strong as originally envisaged by Tom, what an occasion that would have been.

Coincidences do happen and in the same party were Mrs. Helen Brighton and her sister, both from Edinburgh. Helen's late husband was the younger brother of the late Lt. Col. Leslie Lawrence Brighton, Superintendent of Police and 2nd in command of the P.M.F. in Palestine who was later to serve in Malaya. It would have been nice while in the Tyrol to have called upon J. M. (Moshe) and Anna Dickson at their delightful home at Villach in Austria which is not so very far across the border from Oberammergau but this was not to be. Readers will remember from the last newsletter the circumstances of Tom's sudden illness and death which clouded the whole holiday and came as a tremendous shock to everyone in the party. After a terrible ordeal for poor Betty, Tom is now at rest but memories of Oberammergau flood back. To make such a trip is a good thing for P.P. to do, particularly when one of our number actually lives there and can keep an eye on us. A bit like going to Jerusalem. It was a good idea that Tom had and Freddie and I are glad we made the trip.

TREVOR KIRBY

CORPORAL COME HERE!

I arrived at Mount Scopus Police Depot on 15th March, 1930, having secured a one year contract from the Crown Agents for the Colonies. The entry regarding my enlistment appeared in Force Orders, Part 2 as follows:—

Number	Rank	Name	Date of enlistment
651	Constable	V. S. Clifton	15.3.1930

There was no big deal about that entry but I was now a member of the British Section of the Palestine Police and it was not until 1932 that the significance of my rank was brought home to me. In 1932 I was posted to the Old City Police Station in Jerusalem as constable in charge of Criminal Records. My station N.C.O. was Corporal Mitchell and he was a very imposing man of some six feet in height and with his well groomed moustache he could easily have been mistaken for a Guards Officer when in mufti. The Station Inspector was First Inspector Mohammad 'S' who had no love for Europeans and was not at all diplomatic in his dealings with Corporal Mitchell.

One particular morning, Mitchell was conversing with a Palestinian Police Corporal on the patio outside the police station when the silence was broken by a roar from the Inspector who shouted "Corporal come here". But Corporal Mitchell ignored the order as it was not at all clear to which corporal the order was directed. Inspector 'S' came across the patio and told Mitchell that he would report him for disobeying a lawful command. Mitchell refused to be subdued by the overbearing demeanour of his superior officer and firmly replied that the appellation 'British Corporal' should be the form of address to him. Hence it is my belief that it was Corporal Mitchell was probably instrumental in getting the title British Constable, British Corporal or British Sergeant for members of the British Section.

It is sad to relate that disciplinary action was taken against Mitchell for failing to obey the "Come here corporal" order and this resulted in his premature departure from the force and it is a pity he left as I feel that a man of his stature would have done much for the force and might have risen to very high rank. He stood up to people when he thought it proper to do so.

V. S. CLIFTON

THE SYCE

Every police station in Palestine had its quota of civilian employees: cooks, mess boys, cleaners and syces and they all went about their daily tasks unobtrusively and with quiet efficiency largely unnoticed but never less appreciated. Many

are probably long forgotten or are only dim memories, while others stand out with great clarity undimmed by the passage of time. To me, Hassan, one time syce at Qalqilia was such an unforgettable person. He came to us as just another of the constantly changing number of amateur, semi skilled or fully trained men, who, with fairly regular monotony arrived and departed in search of the job which always seemed to elude them since the disappearance of the many cavalry regiments which had for so long been based in Palestine. These units had provided them with regular and reasonably well paid employment until the horses were replaced by tanks and armoured cars which needed no mucking out or watering and feeding. There were now almost as many syces as there were horses in the country and some men found it difficult to adapt to a new way of life and were constantly on the move seeking the niche into which they could settle.

Hassan had no previous experience as a syce which was perhaps an asset as it was not necessary to break old habits which did not fit our particular routine. Starting from scratch, he quickly learned to do the job our way; he was essentially a simple man who had never ventured far beyond his native home, had never looked upon the wonders of El Quds; had never owned a piece of land but had generally worked as a labourer in order to support his wife and small child. His lack of formal education was compensated by his ability to accept and carry orders from all and sundry with a willingness at times abused. He had an inordinate passion to please everyone; on the rare occasions he did anything wrong he would ruefully scratch his close cropped hair and hasten to remedy the fault.

The size nine 'ammo' boots with which he was issued on his first day were his pride and joy and remained his prize possession until the day he left. They were never worn during work but used only when walking between the station and his village. On arrival for work they were tucked carefully in a corner of the saddle room. Despite numerous warnings he always insisted in mucking out barefoot, wielding rake and broom in the stalls amid a great flurry of stamping hooves and wildly swishing tails. Surprisingly enough I can never recall a time when he sustained any injury as he worked barefoot in the stables. After a short time spent watching feeds made up, he took over this chore: carefully sifting the crushed barley and tibben then measuring out the correct amount into the feed tins. Occasionally he would give the horses a treat by chopping up kharroub beans into small pieces to be mixed with their regular feed and had he been allowed his way, our horses would have been stuffed with these every day. There was however one part of our horses diet which Hassan would not have anything to do with. This was the linseed and bran mash that we gave the horses about once a month. He looked upon it as the devil's brew and also had the strange idea that the gently simmering linseed contained meat

which probably stemmed from the fact that I always referred to it as soup. I could never make up my mind if his intense dislike stemmed from the smell or the fact that he was only too well aware that he would have a lot of very dirty bedding to clean out on the following day. Whatever the reason he never overcame his revulsion for this particular part of our feeding.

Hassan looked forward with eager anticipation to the return of a patrol when he would dash around helping to unsaddle and take the tired horses for a refreshing roll in the sandbath just outside the stable gates. When the horses had been rubbed down and inspected, then given a drink, Hassan would hover expectantly around the British members of the patrol with unconcealed anticipation. But we studiously ignored him until unable to contain himself any longer, he would say to one of us "Artini cigarra min fadlak" at which the person so addressed would make a great display of patting empty pockets. This however did not fool him for he knew only too well that we often brought back cigarettes pressed upon us in the various villages that we visited. Eventually the longed for present would be passed over and Hassan would sit on his haunches with his back to the stable wall and puff eagerly on what could be the first cigarette for many days. At times he was extra lucky and could collect sufficient to last him for several days and these were carefully husbanded to last as long as possible.

On rare occasions someone would play a trick on him by removing a few strands of tobacco from a cigarette and inserting a few scrapings of sulphur from the end of a match then replacing the tobacco so that the weed appeared undoctored. The smoke would then be offered, care being taken to ensure that the undoctored end was not placed between the lips. Once the cigarette was lighted Hassan would take a couple of long drags and the sulphur would flare up and then holding the tattered remains of the squib between his fingers, he would say the only words of English he could utter without hesitation. "Very funny". He would then spend some time examining the remaining cigarettes for signs of tampering despite assurances that they had not been touched. One had to be careful when this trick was played since Hassan was shaved by the local barber once a week. On a Thursday in preparation for his visit to the mosque on the following day and to offer him a doctored weed when his black stubble was at maximum growth would mean he could receive an unexpected singe.

Eventually Hassan got itchy feet and announced that he intended to leave for a better paid but casual job in the village. The fact that his present employment was at least reasonably permanent proved insufficient incentive to induce him to change his mind and on receiving his last monthly pay and reluctantly handing over his precious boots, he departed. I met him from

time to time in the village and we always stopped to have a chat. Sometimes he was usefully employed, often he was not, but he accepted this state of affairs observing, Micawber like, that "Something would turn up — Inshallah". Our next syce was a different type and army trained. Efficient and an excellent worker who could make a very proficient job of cleaning a man's tack to earn a few 'akkers' to augment his pay, but he lacked the delightful, simple manner of Hassan, who of all the syces I came into contact during the remainder of my service, stands out clearly in my memory.

BOB ROWBERRY

FROM JERUSALEM TO VICTORIA

One of the things that sets this association apart from so many others is perhaps the fact that we have all "Gone up to Jerusalem". As so often the expression is recorded in the Bible. Indeed it has not been possible to serve in the British Section of the Palestine Police without a least one visit to The Holy City and since our training school was at Mount Scopus until 1944 it follows that most former members of the force actually lived and trained there. At a spot but one kilometre away from the walls of God's chosen city.

For most of us, Jerusalem was an experience which has had a salutary effect upon our lives as well as our attitude to mankind in general and is something that is likely to effect us until the last hours of existence. I have known some most unlikely and improbable candidates to the realms of philosophic thought to be influenced by a walk around the Old City of Jerusalem. There have been comrades who have enjoyed and even revelled in most of the seven deadly sins to full effect who after Jerusalem, have paused to reflect sometimes and ponder a little and although undoubtedly many still indulge in the general carousals of the flesh, they do sometimes show signs of and admit to the fact that Jerusalem has affected them too. We seem to be a better people, I daresay, after Jerusalem than before it and some of us have developed a fierce love for the city which astonishes us all.

But when the Stand Down came, Palestine went through their own special diaspora. About a thousand stayed overseas and took up the life of the nomad. Working here, working there and holidaying somewhere else. In other territories some came to enjoy riches and others fell to a hard struggle for existence. The majority came 'Home' and suffered their dispersal within the United Kingdom. Nearly everyone thought Jerusalem — if they thought of it at all — as being well behind them. Here the prepositional word 'But' exerts its insidious influence on all that has been said before. But (to say it again) the early and slightly

overlapping formative years of the Old Comrades Association had already started in London, with another arm of our roots beginning a year later in Jerusalem itself.

To the British people, London is that other great and historic city which brings meaning to life and continuity to those steeped in British history. London is probably less than half as old as Jerusalem, if we include the ancient Canaanites who founded the place. Nor is London connected with the many and varied messengers of God. Yet to the British (not just the English), London can have a Gethsemane effect upon the sensitive man. The history of our own land is wrapped up in every paving stone and every thoroughfare, church and attic. So if this association was going to get off the ground at all then no one can be surprised that the first seeds came to be planted in London and the centre of our association activities have remained there ever since.

So, within London — its 200 villages joined together — an area within the City of Westminster was to become the association equivalent to the Russian Compound of Jerusalem, or if this is stretching the imagination too far, it was at least to become the epi-centre of our activities. It was not by any means the most attractive district and it can truthfully be said to be sufficiently run down to the point of being rather seedy. I refer of course to Victoria S.W.1., which is in itself about one sixth of the area occupied by the City of Westminster. Before readers fall out of their chairs with laughter, because of this unsavoury comparison with Jerusalem, just consider the point I am about to make. We learn from the very first minute book in our possession that on 2nd February 1946, in a private room about 32 Churton Street S.W.1., thought at the time to be above a public house, but now belonging to the St. George's Club which is affiliated to one of our political party organisations, a gathering of former Palestine Policemen planned the formation of an old comrade association and dear old W. E. (Bill) Conolly took the initiative and presided and within minutes of so doing was elected Chairman, or at least Chairman-to-be, if all went well. It is recorded that Messrs. E. Medhurst, H. R. Barnes, V. F. Powell, J. Monk, A. C. Simpson and F. I. G. Clayden were present. Others are not named. Where is Church Street? I hear you all ask. At Victoria S.W.1. The next meeting (16th February 1946) was at 67 Belgrave Road (Victoria) and the third and many subsequent meetings took place at The Enterprise Public House which is in Tatchbrook Street (Victoria of course). These places are all so close to the present Cardinal and the Eccleston Hotel venues as to be ridiculous. (Almost just across the compound, as it were).

From this little acorn, a mighty oak did grow. In the early days R. T. (Roy) Mann became a very good secretary and there then followed the amalgamation of the Victoria OCA with a more orthodox association, formed in Jerusalem in January 1947

the late Ben Shaw and the late Tommy Blount as prime movers, and known for convenience as the Jerusalem OCA. The Stand Down left the last named association without a base and a wise and effective amalgamation took place on 1st October 1948 in which our present, President became our Association Chairman. For a short time R. T. Jones was secretary but soon to be replaced by the return of Roy Mann. It is of course true that some things had to be separated from the Victoria scene. For instance the secretariat must be where the secretary actually dwells and so for this reason The Star and Garter at Putney was where we all sent letters, simply because a later secretary, E. T. (Cossie) Cosgrove, actually lived nearby. This is in line in more recent times with the present General Secretary who happens to live at Stanmore in a house that gets more letters delivered than all the other houses in his road added together.

However it is Victoria that is the best known part of London, to those who do not actually live in the place. Just a small part of the City of Westminster and all within the huge three-mile-across of London's centre core. Who I wonder, remembers Jasper Stinson making his customary beeline in almost indecent haste to get to the Windsor Dive which was just outside Victoria Railway Station and a well known meeting point in the early days of our association. In those days it came to be regarded on a par with Abe's tiny establishment in Meashearim Quarter, Jerusalem. Mercifully the Windsor Dive is now closed and the airless gloom of the downstairs bar is returned to the rodents and other denizens of the lower world. Yet some of our chaps actually liked the place and it was certainly convenient as a meeting place. Much better to recall the more salubrious Daisy at Knightsbridge, within a yard or so inside, or even outside, the boundary of the City of Westminster where Bob and Trudy Holland made us all so welcome. It was only just up the road from Victoria for those who could still walk.

Official meeting places had to be found for our once a month gatherings and The Bedford Head, Maiden Lane was an early holstelry captured for Palestine Police usage and abuse. True it was in Covent Garden and not Victoria but still within the City of Westminster and only 15 minutes walk from Big Ben for those who wished to check the time and with legs such as former dog handlers were issued with, or 20 minutes for the rest of us. Then came The Clachan (near Oxford Circus) followed by The Clarence (Mayfair). Neither was really a home from home. The former was beyond the pale and the ladies hated it while the latter needed waking up. I recall Killer Callan doing just that one occasion and Peter Coles quietly debating with himself as to whether a Mayfair lamppost with City of Westminster coat of arms moulded into its base, was as climbable as lampposts in his native Oxford. We never discovered whether this was so. But

PALESTINE POLICE—O.C.A.

BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

(Registered Charity No. 282492)

Objects: To relieve need, hardship and distress amongst members of the association, their widows and other dependents.

Chairman:

S. W. Hills, K.P.M., B.E.M.

Flat 57, Kemp House, Berwick Street, London W1V 3PN
Telephone 01-437 4483

Secretary:

S. P. Johnson

19 The Crest, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ
Telephone: Southend-on-Sea (0702) 521805

Details of members of the former Palestine Police Force, or their dependents, now in reduced circumstances and requiring assistance, should be sent in the first instance to the Branch Secretary or where an O.C.A. Branch does not exist, to the Benevolent Association Secretary. All cases will be dealt with in strict confidence.

Funds are essential for this very needy cause. Donations should be sent to either the Chairman or Secretary of the Benevolent Association, or to any member of the Central Council or Branch Secretary for onward transmission.

Members who wish to pay regular donations by way of Deed of Covenant should write to the Secretary of the Benevolent Association.

by the initiative of the Inspector General, Col. W. N. Gray with through the years we were edging back to our roots and getting closer to Victoria with only the width of St. James's Park now dividing us. Then came the Cardinal, a happy find and the best home we have had. It is only 300 yards from the mainstream of life in Victoria and a mere bow shot from where we were conceived.

The greatest possible experience for a former Palestine Policeman must be to attend the annual cenotaph parade in Whitehall (City of Westminster). Here he can fulfil his sense of duty and honour our dead who are buried in Palestine. In a sense, he can return for a few minutes to Jerusalem. A private reverie in which memories of his former life and commitment of service can be gauged against all that he has achieved since. He can take stock, as it were with his Jerusalem experience, but now in London. Today the cenotaph is within easy reach of all the diversified activities of our big weekend in London. First the A.G.M. at the Cardinal, then the annual reunion dinner at the Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre (300 yards from the Cardinal front door) and both at Victoria of course in terms of location. These days he can stay at The Eccleston Hotel, next door to Victoria Railway Station and one almost collides with Tatchbrook Street to get to the Eccleston from the Cardinal. Then the short and pleasant stroll down Victoria Street to Whitehall on the Sunday following. These locations are a long way from the old Peter Jones Restaurant (Chelsea) and The Oval Restaurant (South of the water). All is now an on the spot and compact exercise.

Indeed it is very mysterious just how convenient it has all turned out to be. Victoria is of course central for rail, underground and coach links which is important to those provincial members (the majority) who wear THE TIE and who make the annual pilgrimage to London. It is not just a pleasure to them, one can read the faces. They come with a sense of duty to be done. Something that any Palestine Policeman worth his salt simply has to do. A few hours every year is given to a greater cause and to an important call that is above one's puny self. Just like pilgrims, they come. These men, who have all been "Up to Jerusalem" now come to Victoria if you like. Gracious what a comparison. Could it work the other way? I doubt it. Yet when I last gazed at the Palestine Police memorial plaque in St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, a year ago exactly. I spoke to an English lady and her daughter who had also noticed the plaque and seemed very interested. As we left the cathedral and before I said goodbye, I asked where she came from. "Ebury Street, London" she replied. I might have guessed. It's in Victoria. Now there was something very strange about that.

ONBASHI

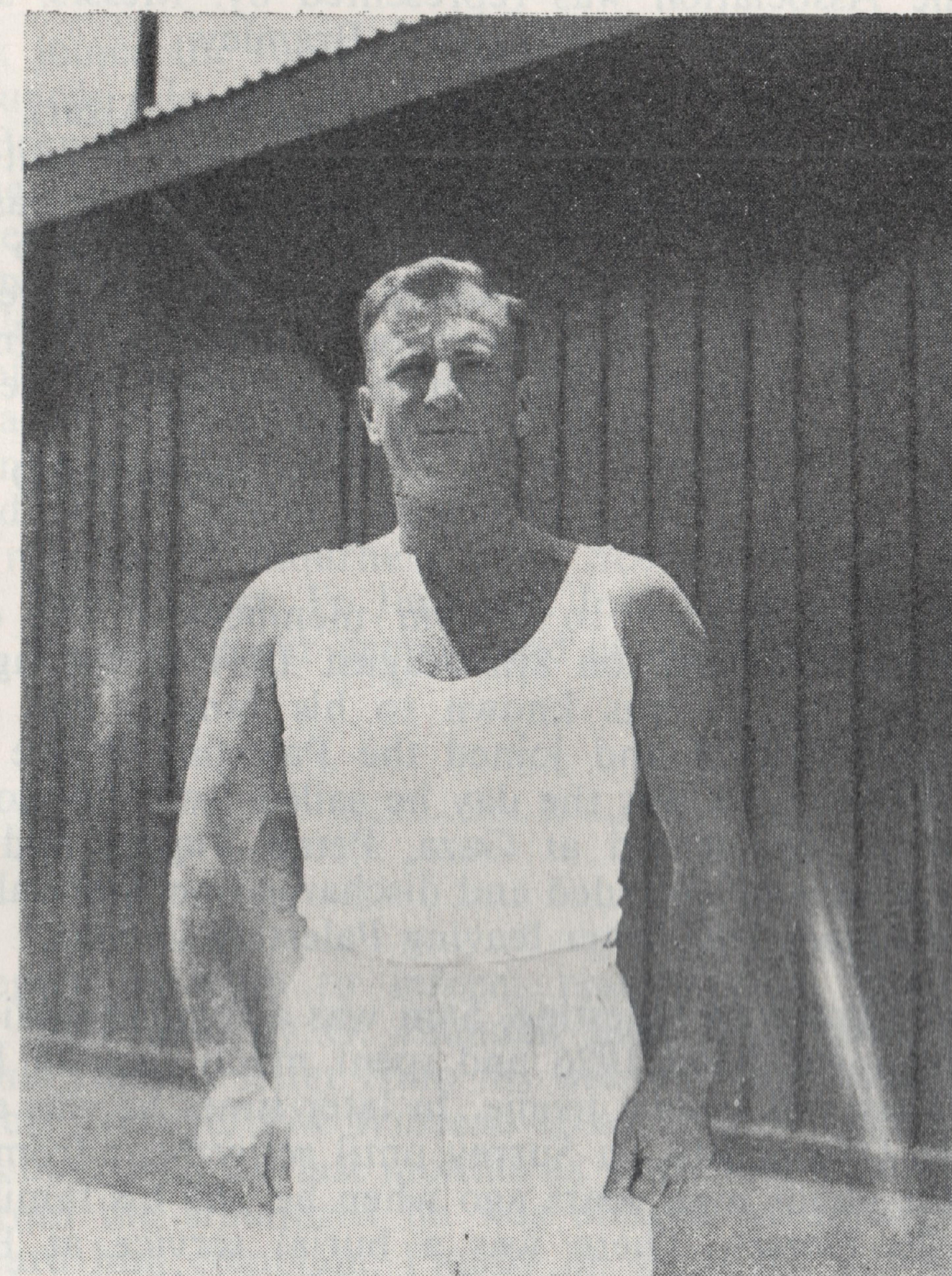
OBITUARY NOTICES

A shock wave went round the association when it was learned that Roy Richard Fitze, B.E.M., had passed away on 12th September 1984. Was there ever a Palestine Policeman so well known to his colleagues in Palestine or so widely acknowledged within this association? As a young man Roy Fitze spent seven years in the British army, first with the 14th/20th Hussars but then transferring to the 11th Hussars. He spent five of these years in India. The exact date he joined the Palestine Police does not appear to be recorded in our annuals but he went through Mount Scopus in the same squad as John Fforde, so it looks like being about November 1931. ('Fitze' as he was always known to me, or 'Fitzie' as he sometimes became). Once explained on a Cardinal occasion. "We made a pair Fforde and me — He was the brains and I was the brawn."

Almost from the beginning of his service in Palestine, he took a leading part in the force boxing programme and it is in this department that he made his biggest contribution to the annals of force boxing achievements. Soon Fitze was synonymous with force boxing and force boxing was in the end Fitze. It will remain arguable whether he was the greatest Heavyweight Champion produced in the Middle East. After all there was Lofty Godliman just in front of his arrival and Adrian Hawley coming along nicely in later years. But destined as a permanent inmate of The Depot, Roy watched each squad arrive and was in a unique position to pick out boxing talent, then to develop it and shape the men up for clean competitive boxing with all likely challengers. In short he spotted them, trained them and let them loose on likely opponents. Then there was Fitze the gymnast who took squad after squad through Depot training. Physical Training was second nature to him as was the whole business of getting and staying in a supreme state of physical excellence. The best known memory that many of us have is that of Roy Fitze in singlet and white trousers, strolling around the edge of the Depot Square with his alsatian dog close behind. The two went together. But he also had an infectious sense of fun and often played pranks upon his squad, just as they held him in greatest awe, there would be an explosion of laughter as it dawned upon the squad that they were being taken for a ride and Roy Fitze joined in with his broadest grin reserved as a curtain call. He was an Inspector in due process of time and followed the Depot to its new home at Jenin where he was equally well known to P.M.F. recruits and all the time was searching through the melee of recruit arrivals for boxing talent. The force boxers were as good in 1947 as they ever were in the 1930s.

In later years he was best remembered as the 'A.A.' chap outside Fanum House, Leicester Square. He spent many years in the employment of the Automobile Association and was to a

THE LATE ROY FITZE, B.E.M., AS WE REMEMBER HIM.



Photograph from Titch Freeman collection.

First published in issue No. 119.

great extent the best security officer they ever had. He earned his British Empire Medal with the A.A., whose staff always called him Dick. It was unerving to take tea with Roy in the staff canteen at Fanum House. He once said loudly for all to hear. "A nice lot here. They don't know anything and they haven't done anything, but they are a nice lot." I was ready to crawl under the table as everyone turned to stare but they knew him and evidently admired him tremendously. For many years he was Parade Commander at the Cenotaph proceedings and the site of Roy in a bowler hat was a far cry from Roy with the Indian Clubs in the gym. The funeral service took place at The Brighton and Preston Cemetary, Hartington Road, Brighton, on 19th September (although he lived in Walworth in London). The association was well represented by the following: Walter and Betty Gibbs, John and Liz Bevan, Bob and Dorothy Ash, Paddy Craig, John Curtis, Fred Pays, Sidney Johnson (Central Council), Micky Hills (Central Council), Terry Shand (Association Chair-

man), George Stewart (Central Council) and John O'Sullivan. The Automobile Association was represented by: Messrs. J. Grubb (Administration Officer), J. Fell and G. Bramley.

Roy leaves a son, David, who with his wife Alzari, were the chief mourners. They live at 59 West Deane, Brighton, East Sussex and it is fitting that I take this opportunity to pass on the sincere condolences of hundreds of old comrades who came to hold his father in the highest esteem. Roy Fitze was very much his own man and many of us owe him a great deal. He may have supplied the brawn in his squad but in many ways we were all his pupils. It was an honour to have know him.

EDWARD HORNE

With regret I have to inform members of the death of Samuel Walker Gibson, on 8th August 1984 at the age of 76. Sam (or Gary as he was known to his family) was formerly British Sergeant 2705 and joined the Palestine Police on 25th February 1939 which was the day he sailed from London on the ss Strathmore. He served at Gaza, Petah Tiqkva and later at Haifa where he was wounded and discharged on medical grounds on 4th September 1947 after leaving Palestine in May.

Prior to going to Palestine, Sam was a regular soldier with a Hussar Regiment from 1926 and spent much time in India but the details are not known to me. In later times he was employed by Unigate Dairies Ltd. in Surrey until retirement from his post as inspector about nine years ago when he and his family moved to Poole in Dorset. There was a burial service at Parkstone cemetery on 13th August and as far as I know the association was not represented because of the absence of effective notice. Condolences have been sent to Sam's widow Joyce and her children by myself on behalf of all old comrades.

Sam did not care for social functions and although always a member of the association was not well known among our members. We owe him much. His service in Palestine brought him three bullets in his leg and two stab wounds in the back from which he suffered and enabled him to draw a disability pension for the rest of his days. But few of us knew of this and he is one more example of a Palestine Policeman giving more to life than he takes from it. In a way he is an example to the rest of us. Our deepest sympathy goes to all his family.

TREVOR KIRBY

It is with great sadness and a sense of personal loss that I report the sudden death on 25th August, 1984 of John (Jock) Duncan Urquhart at the age of only 67. He lived at 61 Murrayfield Gardens, Dundee, Angus DD4 0AJ. Jock was actually leaving

the house to attend the annual branch Dinner-Dance at Perth when he collapsed and died of a heart attack.

Jock joined the force in September 1938 after service in the Scots Guards. He will be best remembered for service in the Signals Branch until the Stand Down when he went on to Malaya where he continued to serve in signals and rose to Assistant Superintendent. After the 'Malayanisation' of that force he stayed on in that country for a number of years before returning to the United Kingdom to live with his sister in Dundee. In the course of his time in Malaya he was awarded the M.B.E. and K.M.N. a Malayan award. Also while in Malaya, he married his wife, June. At his cremation service, George Stewart was able to attend from Central Council in London where they joined a large number of mourners from Scottish branch. This took place on 29th August. To June and Jock's numerous relatives in Scotland, we extend our deepest and profound sympathy.

JIMMY LINDSAY

I regret to have to inform readers that former British Sergeant 1478 Murray G. Blundell died from cancer on 11th March this year. A letter from his widow, Marguerite, who lives at Merrick Cottage, 194 Wilstead Road, Elstow, Bedford MK42 9YD has described his last months as wretched. There being side effects from the treatment he was obliged to undergo, yet she never heard him complain. Finally he spent the last nine weeks in a nearby Sue Ryder Home where he received loving care and where the pain could be controlled to some extent.

Old comrades will remember he joined the Palestine Police in January 1940 and after coming home he became Life Member of the Association. In her same letter, he is described as always being very proud to have served in our force and often wondered whether he bored people in telling everyone else about his time in Palestine. It was the most important thing in his life after his family. He married in 1945 and in spite of tremendous efforts to get his wife to Palestine to join him, was not successful and this led him to retire in 1946. The association did not know of his death in time to be formally represented at his funeral ceremony, but Stuart Drage and his wife Sheila, who were great friends of the Blundells attended so that to some extent at least one old comrade was there.

So another of our number has passed on and those of us who remain send our very deepest sympathy to Marguerite in her tragic loss.

EDITOR

For several years I have been trying to trace Joseph (Jock) Kerr who was at one time Sergeant 2977 attached to Acre Police Station in 1947. Then after persistent efforts I discovered that he had died as long ago as 16th December 1981. Jock Keer joined the force in May 1941 after army service and on leaving Palestine at the time of the Stand Down went on to serve in Kenya. I first met him in Acre but later met him again en route for Kenya where he served in many sections of the Kenya Police and may be remembered by some readers who also served in that force. Particularly will he be remembered in the General Service Unit and in the Railway Police at Mombasa Port with the late Maxie Cable. In due time Jock was Best Man at my wedding and later married my sister-in-law. It is all very sad and I deeply lament his passing and for getting out of touch for so long after I saw him in 1975. May he rest in peace.

JOHN KEARNEY

I find it my duty to have to report the death of Thomas Joseph Middleton, C.P.M. in a nursing home in Worthing on 3rd August, 1984 after a long illness. He was 77. Tom Middleton joined the Palestine Police in 1931 and served until the Stand Down. He reached the rank of British Inspector in the force and because of his meritorious, distinguished and able service was awarded the Colonial Police Medal in June 1948 so that he was one of the last recipient within the force. Most thought it well deserved. Sadly his beloved wife died about two years previous and there are no children. There was a funeral service at nearby Durrington Cemetary on 10th August at which I was able to represent the association and on behalf of all former comrades I had the opportunity of offering condolences to his sister, Sarah and brothers Cecil and David who showed their appreciation that we were able to remember him. All his former friends and comrades in Palestine will read this with great sadness.

ALEX TERNENT

I regret to have to inform readers of another old friend who has passed away when I announce that John N. Price died on 2nd September, 1984 at his home from cancer. He was formerly British Constable 639 in Palestine although I do not know the date he joined the force. I regret I did not know him, although he lived near to me, but I have been able to contact his widow, Marion who lives at 16 Cornwall Street, Whitecross, Hereford and she informs me that he loved his life in Palestine and kept in touch with many friends. He even had a letter widely quoted in a recent edition of the newsletter (No. 135. Page 10 — Ed.). To Marion and her son, Mervyn who is shortly to become a father I have offered our deepest sympathy on behalf of all old comrades.

CAM BEATTIE

It is with much sorrow I advise readers of the death of former British Sergeant 1624 Charles Edward Martin on 12th September, 1984. Charles served from 1938 to 1945 and most of that time was in the mounted section. His death came as a great shock to his wife, Marion, as he seemed to be in very good health, although he did have a recent operation that was not too serious but finally died from a heart attack. His widow who lives at 71 Lower Village Road, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7AF has the sympathy of us all.

EDITOR

We are indebted to K. C. C. (Ken) Brickwood (Donor Member) of Wayside, Buckhurst Moors, Amen Corner, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 4TH for information that an old friend and former Palestine Policeman died on Friday, 17th August, 1984. I refer to Joseph (Joe) Brant who earned for himself a large front page obituary notice in the Bracknell News for 23rd August. As far as can be gleaned from the information published Joe Brant served in the former Royal Berkshire Regiment followed by six years in the Palestine Police.

He was a skilled toolmaker by trade and was for several years a member of the Easthampstead Rural District Council and is best known to the older residents of Bracknell as 'Battling Joe' since he was a lifetime campaigner who fought hard and vociferously for 'people's rights' in the town and detested bureaucracy in all its forms. In this he became locally famous. He was 72 when he died from a heart attack. There was a funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Bracknell but as far as is known his death was not known to anyone within the association and it also appears he was not a member. He leaves three daughters and we extend our very deepest sympathy to them in the loss of their father who was at one time a comrade of ours.

EDITOR

I am indeed sorry that it is my task to report the death of a very dear friend and comrade, Tommy Tootell who died on 17th September, 1984, following a heart attack and who was buried on 21st September at Hindley, near Wigan, Lancashire. I first met Tommy in early 1943 and we remained close friends until he returned to the U.K. in 1946. He actually joined the force in September 1942 after army service from 1939. He served in Nablus, the Striking Force in Jenin and in Jerusalem to name but a few stations. After the mandate ended in 1948 my late mother and I visited him and stayed with his relatives at his home and we were made most welcome. Thereafter I kept in constant touch. We met at the Merseyside Branch function in May of this year which sadly was to be the last. Thus ended our

friendship. Tommy was wonderful company and a joy to all who met him. He was a genial character and enthusiastic in his readiness to help others and if need be he made no scruple if he had a mind to be outspoken. I was unable to attend his funeral which took place at St. John's Church, Hindley on 21st September, 1984, to my eternal regret but representatives of the Merseyside Branch of the association were in attendance at his internment. They were Adrian Hawley (Branch Chairman) and Peter Hornby (Central Council). To Edna, his widow and his family we offer our sincere sympathy and condolences. Rest in Peace Tommy.

MICKY HILLS

FURTHER TO OBITUARY NOTICES ALREADY GIVEN

I should like to pay a small tribute to the late Alf Gould whose death is reported in the Palestine Police Magazine for September 1984 (Page 77 — Ed.). When I was the A.S.P. in charge of Beersheba division from 1946 to 1948, Alf Gould was a sergeant in the Long Range Desert Patrol and as we were both keen shots we spent many a happy day stalking the ibex on the barren mountains overlooking the Wadi Araba. Alf was a great believer in fitness and it took me all my time to keep up with him over those rugged mountains.

Later when I was serving in the British Somaliland Police, I saw an article in the Daily Telegraph in which Alf Gould had been awarded The British Empire Medal for Gallantry in defeating a gang of Ethiopian raiders whilst he was serving in the Eritrean Police. I wrote and congratulated Alf on the award and received a letter from him stating that Eritrea was a hunter's paradise and that he had acquired a powerful bow and now did his hunting with bow and arrow as he thought it was fairer on the buck! Alf was an ex-Hussar and had the happy knack of being able to handle men of different breeds and was greatly respected and liked by the men of the Camel Corps and the Long Range Desert Patrol. He figures prominently in the film of the Palestine Police showing the Long Range Desert Patrol and whenever and wherever it is shown it will remind us of a very fine man.

C. H. (Scottie) JOHNSTONE-SCOTT

Further to the very brief notice of death concerning the late Alf Gould which appeared in the last issue. I feel I should add to what has been said in respect of an old pal with whom I served in Kenya after leaving Palestine. Like me he had also served in Eritrea and such was his work esteemed in that territory

that he was awarded the M.B.E. for his fine service with the Eritrea Field Force in which he distinguished himself with many examples of gallantry. Like so many Palestine Policemen, he could lead men and he was widely respected for this quality. I know he leaves a sister in Yorkshire but do not know her address. On behalf of all of us I send to her our deepest sympathy. I have reason to believe that Bill Hopley and Ian Marshal attended the funeral.

STAN BAXENDALE

It is with much regret that I write these words concerning the death of John (Judge) Freegard, which was briefly reported in the last issue. John had been ill for many years and spent the last four in hospital. He passed away on Sunday, 15th July and up to the end his wife, Tilla was with him. Tilla met John in Jerusalem and throughout his long sojourn in hospital she never missed a daily visit and she was a great comfort to him so that at such a moment as this, our hearts go out to her and we offer our deepest and sincere sympathy.

John served in the Scots Guards when he first went to Palestine in 1935 and seems to have become an admirer of the Palestine Police because later on he joined the force in 1938 and I understand that most of his service was in Jerusalem District. He left the force in 1943 to take up a security post in Abadan with the Anglo Iranian Oil Co. and he remained with them until 1951, when he and Tilla returned to the United Kingdom to work for Mobile Oil and later still to a senior management position with Charringtons Fuel.

As mentioned in the last issue a funeral service took place on Monday, 23rd July at Chelmsford when I and Sidney Johnson represented the association. Tilla's brother Mr. Yehuda Greenbaum attended after a long journey from Jerusalem to pay his respects to "A wonderful man!" (His words). He returned to Jerusalem with John's ashes which have since been sprinkled in a small wood outside Jerusalem which is most fitting for someone who loved the ancient and Holy City. He was a good man and in every way a fine example of his generation of Palestine Policemen.

FRANK MACK

It was a great shock to me and my wife, Inge and daughter, Margaret to read of the death of my old friend and Margaret's Godfather, Bert Powell in the last issue of the newsletter. Bert was posted to Central Police Station, Jerusalem in the autumn of 1938 where we served together for some time. He was Best Man at our wedding in Jerusalem in September 1939. A few years later we again served together in Gaza when I was Station

Sergeant there and Bert was in the District Traffic Office with Sergeant Pat McGahey. Rugby was our game and Bert was a fine hooker and we enjoyed many a great game particularly against the tough Australian Army teams in the Gaza area at that time.

Bert was a Shropshire lad and served in the Royal Engineers before coming to Palestine. After leaving the force he went on to serve in Bahrein as a 'Cot Cracker' followed by contracts with oil companies in Canada, Borneo Shell Ellesmere Port. Always a staunch and loyal friend we shall miss him very much.

JOHN EDWARDS AND FAMILY

SHORT NOTICES OF DEATH

We have information that former British Constable 3087 (of 1940 vintage in Palestine) and later Lt. Colonel Arab Legion, Leslie E. Toogood died some years ago in Canada. Since leaving 'The Jeish el Arab' he has lived in various distant places including California, Hawaii and Western Canada but was off our map and as far as is known did not join the association. Recently there have been enquiries for his whereabouts. His former friends will regret his death.

We regret to report that Mrs. Veronica (Ronnie) Devlin, wife of Charles Devlin a member of Merseyside and District Branch passed away after a long illness on 3rd October, 1984. She was later cremated on 9th October and members of the branch were in attendance. Ronnie was a popular and well known lady in local Merseyside activities and our sincere thoughts go out to Charles and his family in such a tragic time.

Another lady who has passed away recently is Mrs. Eileen Doolan, wife of Bill Doolan also of Merseyside and District Branch. She died on 17th July, 1984 and was later cremated at Anfield Crematorium, Liverpool on 23rd July. The branch was represented at the ceremony. She died peacefully after three open heart operations and our sincere condolences go to Bill and his family for their loss.

We hear from South-Eastern Counties branch that former B/Constable 1496 H. R. J. Townsend of September 1938 vintage of 41 Chyngton Road, Seaford, East Sussex died on 14th August, 1984 and our condolences go out to his family and friends.

A SMART PAIR — 1935



Left of picture: B/Constable 237 Michael Hook. Right: the late B/Constable 243 Jack Missen.

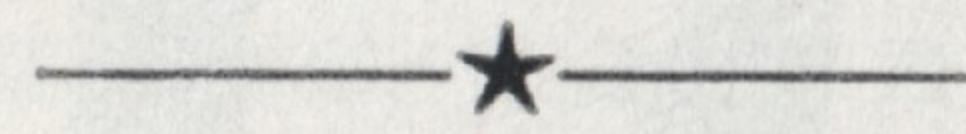
Photograph from Michael Hook.

We also hear from South-Eastern Counties branch that former B/M/Sergeant 1127 D. B. (Dick) Richards of 1932 vintage of Mirabelle, 5 Anne Close, Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8NB died on 9th September, 1984 and similarly we extend condolences to all his family and friends.

Regretfully we learn from the pages of the Daily Telegraph (10th October, 1984) that former Palestine Policeman Ray Dancey died on 8th October at St. Wilfred's Hospice, 2 Mill Gap Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex after a long illness borne with dignity and courage. After leaving Palestine, Ray went on to serve in Malaya. He leaves a widow, Catherine, a son, Mark and daughter, Jane to whom we extend our very deepest sympathy.

We have information that former B/Sergeant 3541 E. S. Harpum died in Auckland, New Zealand as long ago as 1982, something we did not know until very recently. Sergeant Harpum served in the British Army from 1940 and joined the force 8th April, 1944 when he enlisted into the Police Mobile Force. All his former comrades will regret his passing. We are indebted to Mr. David Turner of 14 Ambrose Street, Mt. Albert, Auckland 3, New Zealand for the information.

GREETINGS SECTION



BINSLEY, Jack—63 Selwyn Avenue, Mission Bay, Auckland 5, New Zealand sends warm greetings to Paddy Brennan, Peter Jelacsics, Paddy Duke, Bob Bathgate, Arthur Wiltshire, Dick Wheatley and Tom Walker to all of whom he has deep regard and happy memories of Haifa Beach and Carmelia Court Tennis. Then to Charlie Stewart, Jack Ritchie and Tom Garner for morning coffee at Enab while on traffic patrol as well as Jim Walsh and Stacey Barham who are old Nabulsi's. (There was one other old comrade named who is now deceased—Ed.).

LEE, Peter—Sq./Ldr. R.A.F. (Ret'd.)—Beth Shalom, 85 Vause Road, Durban 4000 R.S.A. sends greetings to George Stewart, Paddy Duke, Aubrey Nye (Beisan), Ted Horne, 'Rusty' Russell and dozens of others.

RUSSELL, Harry—83 Lennoxmere, 28 Windermere Road, Morningside, Durban 4001 R.S.A. sends greetings to all and sundry by way of the same letter as Peter Lee's dispatch.

CANNINGS, Victor—Temporary address at Moorings, Vale Wood Road, Lower Bourne, Farnham, Surrey sends greetings to George Washington and his 'gang' and also to Harry Bearyman.

THOMPSON, Ras—42 Parade Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 4HB, sends special Christmas Greetings to all his old friends in the force and those with whom he meets on P.P.O.C.A. tours and U.K. gatherings, coupled with the hope you all enjoy a prosperous New Year.

HARTLEY, Harry—67 Fountain Drive, Robert Town, Liversedge West Yorkshire WF15 7PY sends salaams and greetings to Bill Chestnutt with memories of happy days in Nazareth.

HORTON, A. R. (Alf)—24 Howard Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 1RD sends Greetings to all former 'P.P.' and specially to Alf and Irene Burton, Dereck and Josie Alexander for their hospitality over the years and particularly in respect of transport without which I could not attend Midland and East Midland branch functions.

EDWARDS, John—39 Featherstone Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, West Midlands B14 6BA sends greetings and kind regards to Mike McKinley in Beaminster, Dorset who will also have happy memories of the time spent with the late Bert Powell. (See Obituary Notices — Ed.).

BLACKBOURN, Ken—52 Lockeridge Close, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7TU sends Christmas Greetings to A. F. L. (Bill) Williams, Norman and Rita Cressy, Charles Eadon-Clark and Rene Lodge, Rowena Cullen, Harry Docksey, Maurice Callard and others who remember him.

MAYNARD G. (Taffy)—P.O. Box 1723, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe sends salaams and seasonal greetings to Ted Knight and Wally Golby and all those he met in London last year.

MUNDEN, Jack—2a Hardingham Road, Hingham, Nr. Norwich, Norfolk. Sends greetings and seasonal good wishes to all his many friends and old comrades. (See also Sick Parade—Ed.).

KNIGHT, R. C. (Rocky)—6 Lime Way, Maple Drive, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex CR0 8RH sends greetings to old friends especially Ian Oxley (Australia), Taffy Maynard and Alan Best (in Zimbabwe) and to anyone who may remember him (the youngest one at Karkur). He adds that he would give his right arm to lead the parade once more down Whitehall on his old Metropolitan horse.

INGRAM, F. W. (Inky) and Joyce—9 Paringa Parade, Old Noarlunga, Adelaide 5168 South Australia sends greetings to 'Jebel' and Joan Mountain, 'Paddy' and Anne Brennan and family, Dickie Sizeland, Bill Coleman, Les Brunskill, Sheila Marshall and Fred Pays.

JONES, (Ifor) E.—86 Lake Ridges Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2Y 1K4 sends best wishes to all surviving members of the old Manchester Branch of the O.C.A. I still recall those meetings with pleasure and still treasure the silver mug complete with inscription with the P.P. cap badge on it. Who donated the badge?

HARGREAVES, Harry—Pereybere, Grand Bay, Mauritius sends greetings and regards to all his old comrades. Every single one of you.

CAMPBELL, Alistair, C.P.M.—Atholl House, Atholl Terrace, Aberfeldy, Perthshire PH15 2DQ sends greetings through Terry Shand to all who knew him in Palestine.

FAIRFOUL, Duggie—84 Coral Road, Table View, Cape, R.S.A. sends greetings to: Patrick McGill, Alan Kirkham and Norman and Rita Cressy with the hope that they are all in the pink.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are due to E. R. (Buck) and Doreen Reeves, Kareka, Hills Road, Saham Toney, Thetford, Norfolk IP25 7JA for becoming Great-Grandparents, second time round. Daughter, Diana's eldest son, Stuart became a proud father some time ago. 4th February, 1980 in fact and now son, Geoffrey's daughter, Jacqueline produced a baby girl on 1st February this year. Splendid news in fact quite Biblical in its way. So and so, begat so and so and onwards. News in fact to cheer us all. Well done to all concerned. (See also Sick Parade — Ed.).

Congratulations are also due to Philip Moore and his wife of 117 Moseley Wood Gardens, Leeds, South Yorkshire LS16 7JD whose eldest daughter has recently given birth (letter dated August last) to a baby daughter, Carmen Jane on 13th August, 1984. By the time readers get to this announcement the eager grandparents will be in Johannesburg where the great event took place and where they will be staying for a couple of months. The Moore's already have two grand children but little Carmen makes a good excuse to go to South Africa for a big slice of our winter. Good news indeed and congratulations to the happy couple.

Congratulations to Harry and Rosa Cassels, 29 Conifer Gardens, Streatham, London SW16 2TY for reaching their 40th Wedding Anniversary. There is a little bird in London Branch who twittered in our ear. They are a popular pair in branch circles and we all say "Well Done".

Also we owe congratulations to the Association Vice-Chairman, Les Seaton and his wife Beryl who have become grandparents first time round. Their joy comes from a boy born recently to their son Andrew and his wife Yvonne. Hearty congratulations from us all.

WEDDING BELLS

On Saturday, 7th July, 1984 Carol, daughter of Derrick and Sheila Bland of 28 Southwood Drive, Thorne, Nr. Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN8 5QS was married to Mr. John Congdon. We do not know where the happy couple intend to settle but doubtless the occasion brought much joy and happiness to both families. All Derrick's old comrades will wish his daughter and her husband all health and happiness for the future.

SICK PARADE

REEVES, E. R. (Buck)—5 Meadow Way Drive, Trench, North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 0QQ is not at all well apparently, although not complaining. Buck is a diabetic (20 years standing) with side effects and has had two spells in hospital with another awaiting which sounds enough for most of us, but he keeps cheerful and all his old friends and comrades hope that he will soon be comfortable and in much better health.

MUNDEN, Jack—2a Hardingham Road, Hingham, Nr. Norwich, Norfolk has suffered from a leg amputation some time ago and we have only recently heard of the event. Typically he is not complaining but wrote to be excused marching on the cenotaph parade. This old comrade is very well known from Palestine days, particularly by former Jenin Tegart personel and all his friends and pals will wish him as much comfort and health as can be mustered at such times. We published his picture on page 33 of the last issue too. Without even knowing. Best wishes from us all — Jack.

WARD, J.—Yorkshire Branch (Address not supplied — Ed.). Information reveals that Joe Ward has suffered another spell in hospital and old comrades can but hope that he is now out and improved considerably. We send him all best wishes.

GOLDTHORPE, Frank—56 Woodroyd, Honley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD7 2QW was reported sick in the last issue. We are glad to say that he is back on parade at time of going to press.

METCALFE, Stan—The Croft, 11 Croft Drive, Honley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD7 2AS, a near neighbour of Frank Goldthorpe, also reported sick in the last issue, has after a further spell in hospital been reported back home and mending. Well done.

BRADDICK, Bert—9 Graveny Place, Springfield, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire has 'according to a little bird' been in hospital for a spell in the month of September but is now better. We all hope and trust he remains so.

ELMES, A. I. (Ivor)—21 Lynmer Close, Walton Court Farm Estate, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire has we regret to hear suffered from a foot amputation. We certainly hope this old comrade will soon be as comfortable and as cheerful as is possible in such circumstances. We do not know the details.

HARGREAVES, Harry—Pereybere, Grand Bay, Mauritius writes as former B/Constable 101, A.D., 1934, P.P. Ret'd. Unfortunately he is crippled with arthritis and has great difficulty in putting pen to paper. His effort was a good one and we can but hope that with modern medical wonders he can look forward to some improvement.

SKELLY, E. S. (Mick)—26 Whitby Court, Parkhurst Road, Holloway, London N7 05U. Has suffered from two heart attacks in recent years and must take things very easily. It was characteristic of him to be on parade at the cenotaph as usual but we do hope he is looking after himself.

SKELLY, Mrs.—Address as shown above. This lady has had a bout in hospital this summer with fibrositis on her lungs. Sounds a wretched complaint but we hope she is coming back to reasonable health by the time she reads this. Bless her.

GOSBY, J. E. W. (John)—12 Lych Way, Horsell, Woking, Surrey GU21 4QC has had another attack of heart trouble we hear and hope he is as comfortable as circumstances allow. All former P.P. and for that matter former East Africa-ites wish him better.

NEW MEMBER

5084 MATTINSON, J. R., ex. B/Sgt. 1714—82 Mellanby Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham.

REJOINING MEMBERS

1083 NEWALL, A. W., ex-B/Const. 4300—Flat 6, 13 Canterbury Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8LE.

4911 LAMBERT, K. L., ex-B/Const. 3170—34 Highlands Drive, Burgess Hill, West Sussex.

4563 HARMAN, R. A., ex-B/M/Const. 1123—Clear House, Fowey, Cornwall.

3195 BOND, J. S., ex-B/Const. 526—126 Marine Parade, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 2RF.

24 BATHGATE, R. W. G., ex-B/Inspector—55 Leabrook Drive, Rostrevor, South Australia 5073.

4346 WHEATLEY, R. G., ex-B/Inspector—128 Greenbriar Circle, Petaluma 94952 California U.S.A.

L.430/
1430 HAINGE, J. W. A., ex-B/Const. 4197—Harcourt Hall, Oxford OX2 9AS.

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A.145 PENWRIGHT, F. J. S., (son of ex-B/Sgt. 683 D. W. Penwright) 39 Gorse Road, Cookham, Berkshire SL6 9LA.

A.146 PENWRIGHT, M. J., (son of ex-B/Sgt. 683 D. W. Penwright) 'Hazelwood Pines', Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4QH.

NEW DONOR MEMBERS

D.133 PILE, J., 37 Wallace Drive, Huyton, Merseyside L36 1TJ.

D.134 CHORLEY, R., 126 Halifax Road, Brierfield, Nr. Burnley, Lancashire.

D.135 NEWBURY, J., c/o Hillary Press Ltd., 75 Church Road, Hendon, London NW4 4DP.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

BEVERIDGE, Mrs. M.—17 Fairfield Close, Langham, Oakham, Rutland, Leicestershire LE15 7IQ (from Scotland).

BLUNDELL, C. F.—33 Madeira Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex (from Westcliffe-on-Sea).

BROMLEY, Fl./Lt. D. W., C.F.M., R.A.F.V.R.—Flat 15, Hillside, Lougher, Swansea, West Glamorgan SA4 2XX (from Gorseinon).

CHESHIRE, W. G. V.—14 Cranwell Drive, Grimsby, Lincolnshire DN37 9LU (from Gwent).

CLEAVER, P.—P.O. Box 1613, Manaba Beach 4276, South Coast, Natal R.S.A. (from Johannesburg).

COLLINS, P. V.—The Ace Caravan Park, 32 Esplanade, Tin Can Bay, Queensland 4570, Australia (from c/o Anderson New South Wales).

CRANSTON, Capt. K. D.—6 Chapel Row, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire RG27 8NJ (from Upper Clatford).

EDWARDS, Major J. S. M., M.B.E., G.M.—17 Park Place, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 2QU (from Lansdowne Parade, Cheltenham).

FIDDES, J. G., 33 Gwealmayowe Park, Falmouth Road, Helston, Cornwall TR13 0PE (from Warwickshire).

FREEMAN, Mrs. V.—5 Shugborough Terrace, Main Road, Little Heywood, Stafford (from Dorset).

GOODLET, R. A.—253 Bromley Road, Catford, London SE6 2RA (from Beryl House, London SE18 1LL).

GRIEVE, J. H.—Dragon Villa, 15 Quarrydene, Melrose, Roxburgh TD6 9SZ (from Galashiels).

HAINES, N. W.—18 Drury Lane, Oadby, Leicestershire LE2 5FD (from No. 19).

HARTLEY, H. B., 67 Fountain Drive, Robert Town, Liversedge, West Yorkshire WF15 7PY (from Birstall).

HILL, M. H.,—7 Selhurst Close, East Preston, West Sussex BN16 2SR (from Worthing).

HOLT, L.—P.O.B.30171, Amiani Road, Nairobi, Kenya (from P.O.B.30242).

HOPLEY, W. M.—P.O.B. 24816, Karen Country Club, Nairobi, Kenya (from P.O.B. 49028).

KELSALL, E. C. V.—P.O.B. 47279, Standard Street, Kelvinator Sales, Nairobi, Kenya (Amended address).

LOVIE, J. McD.—28 Solomon Crescent, Latham, A.C.T. Australia (from O'Reilly Street).

MUNDEN, S.—67 Silk Mill Road, Oxhey, Hertfordshire WD1 4JW (from Middlesex).

MILLS, W. F.—7 Thornfield Avenue, Connah's Quay, Deeside, Clwyd, North Wales VH5 4HX (Amended address).

MORRISON, L.—2 Parkwood Gardens, Pendennis Road, Northwood, Harare, Zimbabwe (from Natal/Twickenham Drive, Harare).

PATERSON, R. D.—Mermaid Court Holiday Homes, 12 Trevemper Road, Newquay, Cornwall TR7 2HR (from Gwills Caravan Park).

PAVEY, G. L.—c/o 22 Scoutwater Street, Collinsville, Queensland 4804, Australia (from Giborne, New Zealand).

REID, Mrs. M.—c/o Karl and Mary Hager, Dietrichsteinstrasse 24, Leopoldskron, 5020 Salzburg, Austria (from Scotland).

SAGAR, J. B.—Ground Floor Flat, 45 Place Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight (from Newport, I.O.W.).

SAVAGE, R.—64 Bowland Avenue, Liverpool, Merseyside L16 1JP (Amended address).

SAWYER, D. W.—21 Launceston Avenue, Banksia Park, South Australia 5091 (from Windsor Gardens).

SHARKEH, A. S. Abu.—P.O.B. 1615, Doha, Qatar (from P.O.B. 920).

SHARPE, J. W. G.—54 South West Highway, Armadale, Western Australia 6112 (from United Kingdom).

WALKER, T. R.—7 Moonrakers Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 4RD (from Middlesex).

WALSH, J. F. E.—1 Green Lane, Tivetshall, St. Margarets, Norwich NR15 2BJ (from Suffolk).

WILLIS, G. R.—6 St. Pauls Close, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot, Devon (from Kent).

WOODMAN, R.—10 Gavel Street, Maryport, Cumbria (from Derbyshire).

WOOLHEAD, Mr. and Mrs. B. C.—9 Garibaldi Close, Redhill, Surrey (from Burgh Heath).

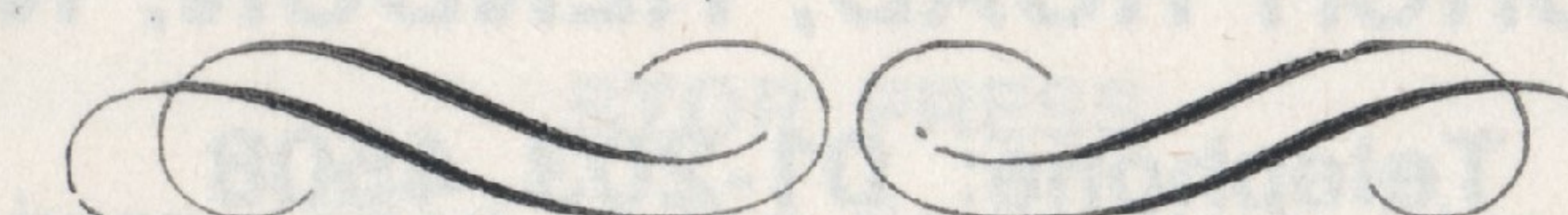
YOUNG, W.—20 Milesmere, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK8 8BD (from Scotland).

TRACERS

J. A. (John) White (ex-B/Sergeant 1503) is trying to trace a former Major in the Commandos who joined the Palestine Police 1946-1947 and was at the time known as 'Maw' Davies. If any reader can bring light to bear will he please contact John direct at 45 Denmark Road, Poole, Dorset and oblige. A glance through the 1945 Roll reveals 18 British Constables named Davies and three Sergeants. Only one has an initial M. if this is significant. We do not possess a Roll of those who joined afterwards. Could be an interesting exercise.

Anything known of the whereabouts of former British Inspector C. C. Hall who served in Palestine long enough to earn the Colonial Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (18 years) and the General Service Medal with Palestine bar (1936-39) but had left the country before 1945 it would appear. Any reader with useful information please contact Alistair Allan (Donor Member) at Humbers, Chideock, Bridport, Dorset DT6 6JW direct.

The General Secretary seeks the whereabouts of D. I. Rees formerly of 16 Ridgemont Gardens, London W.C.1.



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THE SOUKH

Every Member of the P.P.O.C.A. is expected to have in his possession, for wear on appropriate occasions, some distinctive article or articles of utility or sartorial adornment which will identify him as having served with the finest body of men the Colonial Service has ever known—the Palestine Police.

The following articles, AVAILABLE ONLY TO PAID-UP MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, may be obtained at the prices stated. As we have no staff to deal with credit sales or C.O.D., please send remittance with order. Members are requested to include in the remittance sufficient to cover postage, by surface mail or air-mail, whichever mode of despatch they prefer. Net weight of each article is given as a guide when calculating postage.

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N.B.—Orders for remittances for the above articles should be sent to the Soukh-Master, T. J. Shand, 47 Southfields, Hendon, London NW4 4LX. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made out to the P.P.O.C.A. (Telephone 01-203 1057).

STOP PRESS

A new item has been added to the Souk. Navy blue wool sweaters with a white Palestine Police Motif. Sizes 38, 42, 44 and 46 are available. Cost £13.50 plus £1.30 p.p. Everyone thinks they are very smart and of good quality. A good birthday, anniversary or surprise present. Send your order (remembering size required) and cheque to your Souk Master.

MEMBERS IN THE TRADE

(R) Residential — (BB) Bed and Breakfast
(LH) Licensed Hours only — (EM) Evening Meal

HEADQUARTERS. The Cardinal, Francis Street, S.W.1. 1st Saturday each month.

ALLAN, A. J., Humbers, Chideock, Bridport, Dorset DT6 6JW. Tel: (029 789) 310. (R), (BB).

BEARRYMAN, H. C., Lower Dean Farm Hotel, Trentishoe, Parracombe, N. Devon EX31 4PJ. Tel: Parracombe 215. (R) (BB)

BIRD, A. & L., Kumba Guest House, Chudleigh Road, East-the-Water, Bideford, North Devon EX39 4AR. (BB) (EM).

BRODERICK, P., Salisbury Arms Hotel, Hertford, Herts. (R). Telephone: 53091.

CHERRILL, G. W., Amberley Guest House, Chirsty's Lane, Shaftesbury, Dorset. Tel: 0747 3902. (BB) (EM)

CHINN, E., The Rising Sun, Worminghall Road, Ickford, Bucks. (LH).

DACK, G., Oaklands Hotel and Country Club, 89 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe, Norwich NOR 93T (2-star).

DAVIES, V. G., The King's Head, High Street, Haddenham, Aylesbury, Bucks. (LH).

EDWARDS, J. A., The Earl Haig, Little Heath Road, Bexleyheath, Kent. (LH).

HENWOOD, B. P., Arosa Guest House, 23 Pinecliffe Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth BH6 3PY. (BB) (EM).

KENNEDY, C., Clayton Leisure Park, Nr. Guardbridge, St. Andrews, Fife. (R) (in caravans)

LAMOND, R., Beit Tiberia, Knockard Road, Pitlochry PH16 5HJ. Tel: Pitlochry 2755. (BB).

MacDOUGALL, N. M. S., Foyer's Hotel, Loch Ness, Inverness-shire. (R).

McMAHON, P., Anchor Inn, Leek Wootton, Warwickshire. (LH)

MILLARD, W. F., The White Hart Inn and Restaurant, Bridestowe, Nr. Okehampton, Devon EX20 4NP. (LH). Tel: Bridestowe 318 and 303.

USHER, D. B., Grenadier Hotel, Trimdon Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

WILSON, T., The Dun Cow Inn, Old Elvet, Durham City. (LH).

WRIGHT, G. A., The Victoria Coach, Victoria Square, Truro, Cornwall TR1 2RS. (LH).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1984/85

December 1st	Southern & Western Counties Branch DINNER/DANCE	Courtlands Hotel Bournemouth
March 9th 1985	London Branch BUFFET/DANCE	Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre
March 16th	Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Kenilworth Moat Hotel Nr. Kenilworth
April 13th	Yorkshire Branch DINNER/DANCE	York Racecourse Restaurant
May 4th	East Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Robin Hood Hotel Newark
May 18th	Merseyside & District Branch DINNER/DANCE	Centre Hotel Liverpool
August	Scottish Branch DINNER/DANCE	Perth
September 14/15	South-Eastern Counties Branch AWAY WEEKEND	The Beach Hotel Littlehampton

STOP PRESS

Copies of His Highness King Hussein's photograph and message to members of The Palestine Police Old Comrades Association have been specially reproduced and are available at a cost of £2.20 each including postage. Please send your order and money to Terry Shand by return to assure you obtain a copy, in full colour.

London Branch Committee is deliberating whether to provide a FREE Coach Journey to and from the 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance of the Liverpool Branch in early May 1985. Of course you will pay for your hotel and dinner ticket at the Centre Hotel but that is reasonable too. Members from the London area as well as Hertfordshire Branch are invited to let Bill Anderson know by the 1st Saturday of January 1985 if they would like to go. (this of course means family also)

T. SHAND